THE GREATEST NATIONAL WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IN THE UNITED STATES.

TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

CIRCULATION LAST WEEK: 161,000
Sample copies sent free to any address.

FOUNDED IN 1836. TOLEDO, OHIO; THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1903 VOL. LXVIII, NO. 52.

THE METAMORPHOSIS OF BRYAN

Well I remember Bryan's name
When Wm. J. was young,
And bidding youthfully for fame,
Be-wagged his silvery tongue.
Nebraska's farmer grinned with joy,
And thought with many a thrill,
"That's purty sassy for a boy—
He's 'Silver Dollar Bill.'"

When next upon a silver plank
He flourished in his state,
And knowing just the wires to yank,
Became a little great,
The folk who heard Nebraska wind
On reeds of silver play,
Yelled, "Go it, Bill! You ain't refined,
But you're our Wm. J."

Then next, by glowing word of mouth,
He drew at his behest
The whiskeradoes from the South,
The ly-locks from the West,
And, promising the fall of gold,
He gave the crank his innings,
Who chortled in his joy, "Behold,
That there's our William Jennings!"

But now, be Jove, in Lunnon town
He takes his bloomin' lunch
With kings, and dooks, and marquises,
And princes in a bunch;
Slings Anglicized Nebraska-ese
Without so much as tryin';
He's known among the chappie boys
As "W. Jennings Bryan."
—Wallace Irwin in the New York Commercial Advertiser.

LONGEST BEARD.

The proud possessor of the longest beard in the world for a long time was believed to be a Frenchman named Louis Coulon. His beard, which was never cut, measured a trifle less than fifteen feet in length. The side whiskers, which were allowed to grow unhindered, were more than three feet long. The hair was perfectly white, its owner being an old man, while curiously enough the top of his head was perfectly bald.

Advance Weather News.

Do we really want to know for a year ahead what the weather is going to be? Doesn't uncertainty concerning what the weather of the future has in store for us constitute one of its charms? Of course if we could look ahead and know that the day on which we celebrate a pleasant anniversary of some sort is to be sunny and bright, and altogether just the weather for a celebration, we should welcome a scientific year-long prophecy, but to know that a day in which we want to be happier and jollier than at any other time in the twelve months, is to be stormy, perhaps blizzardly, is going to take the good taste all out of anticipation of its joys. Still that aspect of the wonderful possibility of such long range forecasting will occupy but a moment's time of the "idle born." It is the marvelous power to save life and property that will be established, if this new weather bureau with all its ramifications proves a success, that will occupy most minds as they contemplate it.—Boston Transcript.

Australia's Latest Plague.

The caterpillar plague in Australia is assuming alarming proportions, and agriculturists are beginning to fear for the beautiful crops which have resulted from the recent splendid rains. The invasion is now extending from the southern part of New South Wales to the western border of the colony. Trains are frequently stopped through the rails being rendered slippery by the crushed bodies of the insects, which cross the track in countless numbers. An extraordinary sight was witnessed near Bathurist, where a traveling army of caterpillars, said by eyewitnesses to be several inches deep, utterly consumed the oats in a 17-acre field and the wheat in an adjoining field within a few hours.

Settled by a Plunge.

In spite of the inclement weather a good number of clerks of the city went to the natatorium last evening and enjoyed a jolly plunge party. The event was in the nature of a celebration of the settlement of the difficulties between the unions of the city and the natatorium management.—Idaho Statesman.

At Last.

M. Bryan William Jenning, arrive a Londres avec son fils, a l'intention, apres un sejour de quelques jours en Angleterre, de venir se fixer a Paris, pour y passer une partie de l'hiver.—Le Figaro (Paris.)

……. PICTURESQUE ABBEY…….

One of the most ancient and certainly most picturesque abbeys in all England is that of St. Radigund, near Dover. It was built in 1100, and is still carefully preserved, the surrounding ground being parked and the heavy ivy which covers it carefully tended. The north gateway of the abbey with its covering of ivy is shown in the illustration. It is supposed to have been built originally by the Premonstratensian canons.

Catalpa a Forest Wonder

A Tree that Promises to Solve the Lumber Supply Problem—Makes a Non-Decaying Railroad Tie or Post and Grows So Fast that a Forest Can be Produced in a Few Years.

How a forest of extremely valuable timber may be grown in a score of years, and made a source of profit within six to eight years, will be demonstrated in an interesting exhibit at the World's Fair.

This exhibit will be made under the auspices of the International Society of Agriculture. John P. Brown, secretary and treasurer of the association, has consulted with the chiefs of departments at the World's Fair and has made all arrangements.

That particular variety of the catalpa tree known as Speciosa will be the basis for this exhibit and the great value and adaptability of this wood will be shown in all forms. The catalpa is indiginous to the Wabash bottom lands in Illinois and Indiana, but may be grown in any section of the United States. The tree is known nearly everywhere, but its great value is just beginning to be understood. Nearly every boy knows the tree because of the long and slender seed pod, which when dried burns much like tobacco, and is often known as the "lady cigars."

It is the worth of the timber, and its marvelously quick growth, that is destined to solve the problem of future railroad building and furnish a supply of timber for all purposes.

In the World's Fair exhibit, a section of railroad will be built showing the adaptability of catalpa timber for ties. Old ties, that have been in use for 32 years, and not yet showing any signs of decay, will be shown. When it is shown that the average life of an oak tie is seven years, the catalpa's value on this line is demonstrated. There will be telegraph and telephone poles that have been in use as long, and fence posts will be exhibited that can be proven to have been in use for 100 years.

Not alone for these purposes is the wood of the catalpa valuable. A prominent Dayton, O., car building plant will exhibit a section of a palace car, all of the timbers of which, inside and out, are of catalpa wood. The timber possesses all of the requirements for such work, being strong and susceptible to a fine finish. After it has been placed in the finish of a palace car it is often mistaken for oak, chestnut or cherry. Furniture factories will also exhibit fine chairs, desks, and other furniture made from this wood.

The Agriculture Society's exhibit will not stop with showing the varied uses to which the lumber from the catalpa tree may be put, but it will show how the catalpa forests may be grown anywhere within a very few years. The seed is planted in good, rich garden soil, and in a short while they spring up. The young shoots should be transplanted within a year, for the roots reach out in every direction and the best results are obtained from early transplanting. The trees should be set out in spaces of eight feet in either direction. The growth is exceedingly rapid, being uniformly one inch in diameter for each year. At the end of the sixth year the trees have attained a diameter of six inches. Then it is best for the trees to thin them out, cutting down each alternate row, and then each alternate tree in the rows that remain. This leaves the trees standing 16 feet apart.

The trees that are cut may be used for posts and ties, and then the forest yields a fair return during the thining process. "Pole ties" from oak trees are practically valueless, because of the sap in the latter years' growth of the tree. The wood that contains the sap soon decays and this contaminates the rest of the timber. There is practically no sap in the catalpa, and "pole ties" from this wood last an indefinite number of years.

After the thinning out process the growth of the tree continues at the uniform rate of one inch in diameter each year, and catalpa trees at 18 years old often reach as high as 100 feet, thus yielding a large return of splendid lumber.

Among the large railroad systems to recognize the importance of tree planting in order to guarantee a supply of ties for the future, is the Illinois Central. At a point near De Quoin, Ill., 200,000 catalpa trees were planted three years ago, when President Stuyvesant Fish became interested in the work of the Arboriculture Society. These trees are thriving now, and in a few years, when the thinning out process begins, many of the ties on the Illinois Central Railroad will be cut from this forest created in the heart of the vast Illinois prairie. The road is planting similar forests in Mississippi, and contemplates the establishment of others.

CURIOUS CAVE.

Both England and Scotland abound in caves. Since the land is for the most part crowded, these natural shelters are frequently used for houses. The illustration of the famous Pools Cavern shown herewith is only one of scores of similar caves which have been put to practical purposes. For many years this cavern, which is known as the Peak, was inhabited by several families, who worked a cotton mill in it for years.

A REMARKABLE NIGHT PICTURE

This picture of Luna park, Coney Island, by night shows that it is possible to take an outdoor picture even as late as ten o'clock at night, the hour when this was taken. One might think, though, that the twenty-four thousand and odd lights which give the place an almost daylight brilliancy would be bright enough for a snapshot, but they require an exposure of quite some time. The picture shows that the spectators on the bridge seem to have been spellbound watching the "shoot the chutes," for through several minutes they did not move.

"MEETING THE PRESIDENT."

What Takes Place When a Kansas Man Goes to the White House.

Every day the dispatches announce that "The Hon. Mr. Prominent Kansan, of Kansas, was escorted to the White House by Senator Blank or Congressman Soandso and met the President."

This item means to most of the Kansas readers, says the Hutchinson (Kan.) News, that the Hon. Mr. Kansan was admitted to the President's office under the guidance of one of our statesmen and that there he was given a cigar, a good seat, and, together with the President and the senator or congressman, discussed the weather, the Panama canal, the price of hogs, and probably the political situation in Kansas.

But it isn't that way. The facts are that the prominent citizen of Kansas accompanied by his senator or congressman fell in line in the ante-room of the President's office about 10 o'clock in company with a hundred or more distinguished citizens from other states, accompanied by their senator or congressman, and stood first on one foot and then on the other until about 11 o'clock. Then a side door opened and Mr. Roosevelt came in looking like a man who had a job ahead he was in a hurry to finish. Beginning at one end of the line the President rapidly worked his way toward the Prominent Kansan, who was turning over in his mind just what he would say to the President, and what suggestions he would make as to the conduct of the government. When the President came to Mr. P. Kansan, he gave him an exhibition of those famous white teeth, and as the senator or congressman said, "Mr. Kansan," the President said, "Delighted to meet you," with the accent on the "De" and with a warm grasp of the right hand, reaching at the same time with his left to the next man, a prominent Nebraskan, and repeating to him, "Delighted to meet you," same smile and same accent. The President is at the third man and out of hearing before Mr. Kansan gets his breath and realizes that it is all over and Mr. Roosevelt will not have the benefit of the information that he really ought to have.

That is the way the prominent Kansans who go to Washington "meet the President."

MYSTERIOUS IMAGE.

At Llandaff cathedral, near Cardiff, there appeared on the damp stone on the west side of the cathedral a striking image of Dean Vaughn. The dean, who was in charge of the cathedral, had died only a few weeks before and there were many who did not hesitate to attribute the appearance of this likeness to supernatural agencies. It certainly was a more interesting solution of the mystery than the true one—a peculiar stain on the walls caused by dampness. The authorities had it obliterated because so many persons coming to see it trampled upon the graves in the vicinity.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

A Note on the Pronunciation of His Name.

According to Mr. Adrian Wheeler, "the pronunciation of 'Raleigh' seems to be 'Rawley.'" Whether this only means "seems now to be" is to be surmised. The question is, what was the pronunciation at the period indicated? And surely that is much a matter of surmise also. "When Sir Walter Raleigh's name was told ('Ralegh'), said the king, 'On my soule, mon, I have heard rawly of thee'" (not "rawley"). The conjecture presumably must be that King James, with a labored joke founded on the sound then given to Raleigh or (Rawly), meant "I have heard 'really,'" with the "rale" sound that the Irish still give to the word "real"; or, "rarely," with the meaning, "I have heard "rare things of thee"; or, the same word with its present meaning, "I have heard seldom of thee (of late." The assumption that King James must have sounded the letters "raw" as we now do surely requires some proof. Now, in old northern records one may find the name Maitland (and even Maytland) spelled also "Mautland." It is conceivable to the present writer that the men who wrote "Mautland" may have pronounced the word "Ma-utland," but it is inconceivable to him that the men who wrote "Maitland" (and "Maytland") could have sounded the name "Mortland," for that is what our modern tongues have brought the "au" and the "aw" to, as to sound.

Is there known to be any other origin for the surname "Raleigh" than the place name "Rayleigh"? If not, that place name stands to this day in the way of the "Rawley" ("Rorly") pronouncers. En passant, it may be worth remarking that "rare meat" and "raw meat" are much about the same thing. Can it be proved that "rare," with the "raw" meaning, is anything more than a phonetic spelling of the sound given of old to the combined letters "raw"? It may be recollected by some "N. and Q." readers that it has been allowed that the proper sound of "Ralph" (often spelled "Rawfe" in old deeds) is "Rafe," rhyming with "safe."—Notes and Queries.

BETTER THAN A CLOCK.

"In a North Heights family," according to the ever veracious Joplin (Mo.) News-Herald, "there is an infant prodigy, who, as a timekeeper, has the ordinary family clock skinned a block. At precisely 5 o'clock every afternoon the infant falls into a heavy slumber. Regardless of conditions, the baby is bound to have his sleep. No matter where he may be at the time, the baby closes his eyes, yawns and drifts into dreamland. The child's parents have noted the remarkable trait of their offspring, so, quite naturally, they were much alarmed the other day when the young man closed his eyes and fell asleep 10 minutes ahead of time. 'Oh, I know my little tootsie wootsie cannot be wrong,' wailed the mother, as she rushed to the telephone. 'Hello central,' she excitedly exclaimed, 'what time is it?' 'Six minutes past 5,' was the reply. The fond mother drew a sigh of relief. Her clock was 10 minutes slow. Since then the neighbors regulate their clocks every afternoon at 5 o'clock, and they have not the slightest doubt that they get the correct time."

The Whip Hand

A Tale of the Pine Country

By Samuel Merwin

Author of "The Road to Frontenac." Joint author of "Calumet K."

Copyright, 1903, by Doubleday, Page & Co.

CHAPTER VII.—(Continued.).

Once started, she was finding it a little easier to go on; but Mr. Bigelow, carrying the weight of millions on his shoulders, dealing hourly with questions of importance, greater or less, to the whole commercial world, had no time now—kind as he may have been in the more leisurely past—to waste on trivial matters. He had given the woman a chance; was he to blame for her failure? Did not potential success exist within every human being? Was any man to blame for the shipwreck of another?

"I know nothing about that," he cut in shortly and finally. "There is no use in bringing your story here."

She quailed before him. "'But I have a right—the law——"

"The law is yours to use. If you think it will help you, use it." He rose, opened the door, and bowed her out. And she, baffled, humiliated, at the end of her resources, went out without a word, crossed the hall as steadily as any young stenographer, stepped into the elevator with a composed face, and out into the street—and all this while there was nothing to mark her out from a thousand other ill-dressed women; nothing to show that her hopes were gone; simply a plain woman on La Salle street, quietly walking—where? Where could she walk now? Were there still depths to sound, or had she reached the bottom?

"Mr. Babcock!"

The junior partner came out from his own private office at the sound of his senior's voice.

"You were saying," said Mr. Bigelow, taking up the thread where they had laid it down, "that Higginson & Company have agreed to deliver the timber by the fourteenth. Now, of course, a blockade, to be effective, must be complete."

This was self-evident to Mr. Babcock.

"And so long as these people are free to deliver lumber the blockade is not complete. What is your plan regarding this?"

"The Michigan City people, as I said, are afraid of Higginson. But they will accept our price the minute we can show them that they're safe in doing it. They received a letter from Higginson's manager yesterday, stating that the Higginson steamer, with the timber, will reach Michigan City on the night of the thirteenth or the morning of the fourteenth. This means that it will be ready for loading on the twelfth—tomorrow—and that the steamer will start the morning of the thirteenth. Now, it's not hard to imagine a delay that would keep the Higginson manager from getting the boat off in time. And if he fails to deliver, we are promised the order."

"How do you mean to do this?"

Mr. Babcock glanced around in that cautious way of his, leaned forward, and buzzed along rapidly for a few moments, his eyes keen with eagerness. The senior partner listened closely and slowly nodded, to show that he understood. Even Mr. Bigelow, as we have seen, was not wholly free from annoyance. Head of the Lumber Trust was Mr. Bigelow, but not, unfortunately, sole owner of the Lumber Trust. Fighting is expensive; and voting heads of constituent companies are sometimes unreasonable about expenses. Mr. Bigelow was skilful and resourceful; he knew well how to paint rainbows that should dazzle even the hard-headed, hard-fisted old lumbermen of Michigan; he understood how to make it plain that money spent in defeating Higginson would come back threefold when the defeat was over, and the price up where it should be, and the "economies" of the trust in working order; he was shrewd, and he knew that the sooner Higginson could be run out of business the better it would be for him (to say nothing of the trust and its directors). And so it was indeed important that the blockade should be made effective. The railroads were practically closed to Higginson now, his customers were to be had for the buying, but the steamers of the Higginson line were still afloat and ready to delivery Higginson lumber at contract prices. The Michigan City contract was not a matter of money; there was a principle at stake. Higginson must not deliver that lumber on the fourteenth!

"Very good," he said, nodding again. "Have you the right man for this work?"

Buzz—buzz—from Mr. Babcock. More words from Mr. Bigelow.

"You will have to move quickly."

"Yes, I am off now," and the junior partner headed for the traveling bag, feeling in his pocket for a time table.

CHAPTER VIII—MR. BABCOCK BREAKFASTS LATE.

The thirteenth was a storm-center at Wauchung. At six in the morning, while Mr. William H. Babcock was sleeping peacefully in a Grand Rapids hotel, dreaming sweet dreams and smiling childlike smiles, conscious even in slumberland that his work was accomplished; while the Martin L. Higginson No. 1 was lying at the Higginson wharves with two hundred and fifteen thousand feet of lumber aboard. Halloran was up and tumbling into his clothes. Captain Craig, master of the Higginson No. 1, was sitting grimly on the corner of the bed.

"Do you know the man?" Halloran was asking.

"No."

"Did he say whom he was acting for?"

The captain shook his head.

At seven o'clock the No. 1 should be leaving the harbor; but here was her master sitting on Halloran's bed, his seamed old face set hard with the thoughts that were boiling behind it. Down by the mills, where the first early risers were lounging in, where the lumber piles stretching far along the wharves were glistening yellow under the light of the new sun, all was quiet even to the steamer, whose stoke room was cold, whose boilers were giving out no sounds of preparation for the twelve-hour journey. Over at Grand Rapids Mr. Babcock was still sleeping the sleep of the just, dreaming once more that his man had come in by a late train to report that all was well at Wauchung. And still Halloran wss jerking himself into his clothes, pulling on his old purple sweater rather than waste time over collar and tie.

"All right," he said; "I'm ready." Then he paused. The next move was not to be settled offhand. "You went around to Billy's house, captain?"

"Yes; I've just come from there. The way that fellow talked bothered me so last night that I couldn't sleep. I got to thinking it over after I'd gone to bed, and it struck me that if he wanted to cripple the line he'd hardly stop at me. He'd go to Billy sure, for a good engineer isn't an easy man to replace. And they tell me Billy hasn't been seen at his boarding house since noon yesterday."

Very true, Captain Craig! A good suggestion just now when Halloran is still shaking the sleep from his eyes and trying to get these amazing facts in hand, and to relate them with certain suspicions that rose at the first word. It will probably occur to Halloran, when once he shall get facts, suspicious and all firmly gripped in his mind, that heads of trusts do not fight haphazard; that if certain deliveries of timber are to be prevented heads of trusts are not accustomed to move in vain. It is Mr. Bigelow's habit to arrive at results; no getting off at way stations for G. Hyde Bigelow, and obstinate persons who venture on open warfare with the Great must shake the sleep out very early in the morning if they hope to reach even a way-station along the Bigelow line. Steamers cannot be run without engineers; engineers cannot be had for the whistling in far-away Michigan ports with but forty hours of grace—forty valuable hours not a whit longer than other everyday hours; even shorter—hours that were diminishing, were growing more valuable, would soon be precious.

"How much did this man offer you?" Halloran asked.

"Five hundred a year more salary and a bonus of five hundred extra, cash down."

"Did he show the money?"

"He had a big roll."

"Meant business, didn't he?" said Halloran, dryly. "First thing we do, we'd better go down and see if we have anybody left. Then we can talk better."

So they went down to the wharves, where they found a few wandering deckhands by the silent steamer. Evidently deckhands were not important to trusts.

"I guess Billy took the bait," Halloran observed. "He is never as late as this, is he?"

The captain shook his head.

"Well, there is only one thing to do next, captain. We've got to get her down to Michigan City before tomorrow night whether the Trust likes it or not. Do you suppose they've gobbled up the tug men, too?"

It was not a hard fact to discover, for there were only two tugs in the harbor; and sure enough, when, twenty minutes later, the manager for Higginson & Company and the captain of the No. 1 met again on the wharf, they were both beginning to understand how clean a sweep the Trust people had made of it. The captain was growing angrier every minute, and so was Halloran. The rascality of it was what aroused the captain. Waters and winds he could understand, but the ways of men were beyond him. Two days before, in Chicago, Mr. G. Hyde Bigelow had announced that Higginson & Company must not make the delivery at Michigan City; and this resulting moment, with Halloran sitting on the iron cap of a snubbing-post, and the captain standing silent before him, was a very dark moment for the Wauchung interests.

"The old rascal," said Halloran, reflectively.

Craig's dull eye suddenly flashed.

"I ought to have foreseen it," he burst out. "It's the kind of thing to expect from that Bigelow."

"Yes," replied Halloran; "that's what I've been saying to myself. This is a pretty fair sample of Bigelow's methods." He was chagrined to think that it could be done so easily. He had thought of anything, everything, but this.

"I'd like to set Bigelow's head on that pile of two-by-fours," Halloran went on, "and have about three shots at him. I don't believe he'd know himself the next time he looked in the glass."

The captain glanced at him mistrustfully. He liked this manager, but this was not the time for jokes.

"Did you ever see him?" asked Halloran, swinging a leg on each side of the snubbing-post and letting a twinkle come into his eyes as his thoughts seemed to run on Bigelow.

The captain sighed an impatient negative.

"He's a big, vain man. You ought to see him come into church Sunday mornings and swell down the aisle, with his wife and children trotting after him. He's proud of being thought the big financial man in the church; and whenever they'll let him he gets up after the sermon and makes a speech about the church debts. Great temperance man, too—likes to preside at prohibition meetings and plead for the sanctity of the home."

Captain Craig was scowling. Every moment the situation was growing more serious; and here was the manager of the company, sitting on a snubbing-post and swinging his legs. Men were needed now, thought the Captain angrily—grown men, not children.

"One spring house-cleaning time—I generally put in the early mornings and evenings there—G. Hyde called me in—I was putting down the hall rugs just then—he called me in to light the gas. I had a match ready to strike and he reached over and took it away from me and put it back in the box. 'Young man,' he said—he never liked to remember my name—'do you know how I rose from nothing to be the owner of this property?' Then he picked up a burnt match, held it down to the grate, and lighted the gas with that." Halloran smiled a far-away smile. "Aren't some of his steamers up at Pewaukoe now?"

The question was asked in the same careless voice, and it took the Captain a moment to realize that the subject had been changed. Then he answered with a puzzled expression:

"Yes; the G. H. Bigelow should have come in there two or three days ago. The other boats are at Chicago or up on Lake Superior."

"Big boat, isn't it?"

"Yes."

"Got a good crew for her?"

The Captain, all at sea, could think of nothing but an affirmative to this.

"What's the Captain's name?"

"Carpenter."

"Who's the engineer?"

"Robbie McGregor."

"Good man?"

"Robbie? Certainly. None better."

Halloran slid down off the post and looked at his watch.

"Old G. Hyde is getting up about now. He's a great hand at early rising—preaches a good deal about it—likes to say that if he hadn't been brought up on a good old gentleman known as B. Franklin he'd never be where he is now. Well, maybe he wouldn't."

The Captain's temper was hanging on the edge of an explosion, but Halloran went on.

"There's nothing to be done here now. Try to keep everything ready—if you can pick up a man to fire up, I should—and we'll probably get off this afternoon sometime." And he strolled off, leaving the Captain to stare after him and give vent to the first rumblings of a storm.

Halloran, in his old clothes and faded purple sweater and college cap, was headed for the railroad station. At the station he took the Pewaukoe train; at Pewaukoe he walked down to the mills, fairly certain that none of Bigelow's men there would recognize him. The G. H. Bigelow lay at the wharf, as Craig had said. She was taking on a cargo.

The mills were on the low ground by the river. From the road he could overlook them and the great piles of lumber that crowded close to the water's edge for hundreds of yards up and down stream, and he leaned on the fence to take it in. As far up as he could see the river was blocked with logs. The mills were singing and buzzing and humming—it was plain that the Bigelow vitalizing process had begun, and that all hands were being crowded on the work in order to sell lumber at a loss to Higginson's customers. He thought he would walk down through the yards toward the steamer.

As the unknown man, wearing a purple sweater and somewhat in need of a shave, walked past the shore end of the nearer mill, the eyes of the superintendent fell upon him. A moment later the two met.

"How are you?" said the superintendent, suspicious but civil.

"First rate. How are you?"

"Want to see any one?"

"No; just looking around."

"Where were you going?" asked the superintendent, trying to veil his suspicions.

"Nowhere especially. I didn't suppose they'd be any objection if I watched 'em loading the steamer."

"No—certainly not."

"Got a great lot of lumber here, haven't you?" Halloran was looking, as he spoke, at a long pile that extended to a point within fifty feet of the mill.

"Yes; working nights right along—with all the men I can get. That pile doesn't stay here; but we're so crowded I had to leave it over night—just until I get the Bigelow loaded up. I'm going to put on a big force this afternoon and carry it all down to the wharf. Some days lately we've been so crowded I really haven't known how I was going to get things done."

Slowly it was dawning on Halloran that he was suspected of being—not the manager for Higginson & Company—but a lynx-eyed insurance inspector, out running down violations of the clear-space clause. This wouldn't do. It was not on his books to be drawn into an extended conversation with Bigelow's superintendent. He would have to fall back on lying if this were to keep up much longer.

"Say," he observed, "what was that fellow doing down in the water, hopping around on the logs with a long pole?"

The superintendent was beginning to lose interest.

"He picks out logs of the right sizes."

"You don't mean to say he can tell just by looking at a log in the water what size it will cut to?"

A curt nod was the only reply.

"Isn't it remarkable how a man can get trained to things? Now if I were to try a thing like that——"

But the superintendent had fled.

Halloran walked slowly on to the wharf, and stood watching the gangs that were carrying the heavy sticks over the rail of the steamer. Two steam hoists were clanking and rattling as the booms swung back and forth. Bosses were shouting and swearing—everywhere was confusion, but confusion that moved steadily onward toward the loading of the steamer. Halloran dodged around the laborers and walked along the wharf until he was opposite the engine-room door. Within was a fat man in overalls tinkering over the machinery. Halloran climbed up to the deck and stood in the doorway.

"How are you?" he observed. "Nice day!"

The engineer nodded.

"You must be Mr. MacGregor, aren't you?"

"That's my name."

"Mine is Halloran."

MacGregor looked up, surprised.

"Yes, I am with Higginson & Company."

MacGregor did not know what to make of this. Halloran, however, went right on.

"How do you like working for Bigelow?" And without leaving time to reply, he added: "Mean old humbug, ain't he?"

"What do you know about Bigelow?"

"Used to work for him myself. I had all I wanted of him. He isn't square. That's what brings me here. We need a good engineer, and Captain Craig tells me you are the best on the lakes. Is that so?"

MacGregor's mind had not caught up yet; and Halloran continued:

"I want to take you back to Wauchung with me. We will raise your salary five hundred dollars, and engage you for as long a time as you think right. You know Higginson & Company—and you know we keep our promises. I know how Bigelow's men feel." He looked at his watch. "We can get the 9:53 train down."

"You don't mean to go this morning?" said MacGregor.

"Yes; right off. You surely have an assistant you can leave in charge of the engine."

The fat man backed up against the opposite door and looked at Halloran.

"See here," he said, "what does this mean?"

"Mean?"—Halloran's anger, that had been rising since six o'clock, began to boil over—Mean?" It means that Bigelow has come into the lumber business with the idea of running Higginson out. And if you know anything about Martin L. Higginson you know that old Bigelow has bitten off the biggest hunk he ever tried to get his mouth around. He's going to have the whole zodiac buzzing around in his head before he gets through with Higginson—that's what it means! I've come up here this morning to tell you that we want an engineer, and that you're the man we want. And we want you to go on the 9:53 train—that's about forty minutes now."

MacGregor was thinking hard. He knew a little about Bigelow and a good deal more about Higginson. He liked the phrase, too—what was it—oh, "the best engineer on the lakes."

"Can't you give me a day to think it over, Mr. Halloran?"

"Sorry, but I'm afraid not. We need you right off."

"What did you say your offer was?"

"What you think is fair. But I'll tell you flatly, we'll pay you more than Bigelow will—five hundred a year more. You have just about comfortable time to get up to your house and change your clothes. I'll meet you at the station."

"What if Bigelow should make trouble about my contract?" asked MacGregor dubiously.

"Don't you worry a minute about that. We'll back you up to the last notch."

MacGregor thought it over a little longer. Then he turned his ponderous frame and called to his assistant.

"All right," he said over his shoulder to Halloran, "I'll meet you at the station."

At this moment Mr. William H. Babcock was rising from a hotel breakfast in Grand Rapids and reaching for the toothpicks. As he strolled out to the office to buy a paper he picked his teeth and smiled softly.

. . . .

Feeling painfully outside of it all—almost inclined to wonder if his troubles were real, if the mills behind him, the lumber piled on either side of him, the laden steamer before him were real; if this round world, even, with its mixture of ups and downs and ins and outs, were real—Mr. Higginson stood on the wharf at Captain Craig's side. The steamer's fires had not yet been started and it was now after eleven o'clock. The engineers had disappeared, and with them the oilers and stokers; the wheelmen were gone, and the lookouts—nothing left in Wauchung but a few deckhands. And now, to cap it all, Halloran had dropped suddenly off the surface of the earth, leaving a certain old Scotch captain to rumble internally and now and then to burst into eruption with scorching phrases about boys that ought to be back in the nursery, about babes that had been prematurely weaned.

Into this scene of gloom and desolation came Halloran, recognizable half-way up to the mill by the purple sweater, carrying a bulging canvas telescope; and following him, somewhat scant of breath, hurried a fat man with a patent-leather valise. The gloomy ones observed them at the same moment. Mr. Higginson gave a nervous start, then was swept by a feeling of relief that almost brought a smile to his face. The Captain looked—and looked—and—the rumblings ceased. Nohting further was heard that day about nursing-bottles.

"Hallo, Robbie," was all that Craig could bring himself to say when the fat man had reached the wharf and set down his valise and begun swabbing his face with a handkerchief that showed signs of use since he had fallen into Halloran's hands.

"How are you, Cap'n?"

Mr. Higginson drew his manager aside.

"Who is this man?"

"He is the new engineer."

Mr. Higginson's eyes shifted from Halloran to the fat man and back again two or three times. Then, as time was pressing, he decided to ask no questions.

"There is a man up the river that understands firing," he said. "Crosman has gone up to get him."

"Have we any wheelmen?"

"Yes, one of Craig's old men is in the mill. When do you plan to start?"

"Right away—as soon as we can fire up."

Mr. Higginson was on the point of suggesting a wait until the next morning, but he withheld this, too. And so Halloran, who had promised to deliver the lumber by the morning of the fourteenth, and who would have taken the steamer down himself rather than give Bigelow the pleasure of delaying him fifteen minutes, went on with the work of preparation.

At three o'clock that afternoon they were off, with one man in the wheelhouse, a quartet of clumsy deck hands in the stoke-hole, a devoutly profane fat man in the engine room, and one combined lookout and deckhand by the name of Halloran—every man of them facing a solid twelve hours on duty. Never had steamer gone out between the Wauchung piers in such plight before. If the white-clad Swede in the lookout of the life-saving station could have seen through the walls of this good ship Higginson, could have known the facts that lay behind this brave front, he would have wagged his head dubiously and long.

But the stars were kind on the thirteenth of this month. Captain Craig, standing on the wheel-house and guiding her out toward deep water, found himself looking on a flat mirror that blended, miles away, into the blue sky. Streaked with wide reaches of green and purple and corn-color was Lake Michigan today—wearing her gladdest dress of a calm heart. And Halloran and the Captain, both of whom knew her temper, who had met once, indeed, when she was angriest, near Evanston a few years earlier—recognized themselves for very lucky men.

And so the old Higginson No. 1 headed southward, and plowed deliberately down past Point Sable, and heaved out a long line of black smoke just as if she had been a real full-handed steamer with real firemen throwing coal into the greedy furnaces. There was even some enthusiasm aboard; not one even of the stokers but knew dimly that they were fighting. They even felt, the younger ones, like men marching into battle, and when the Higginson was fairly out on the lake and swinging around on her course, one amateur fireman of the watch below ran down the ladder to pass the good news to his less fortunate brethren on duty. And if the heat of the work had been less trying, these grimy fellows, stripped to the drawers and covered with sweat and coal might even have given three cheers.

They ran down slowly, of course. It was getting on toward daylight when the Higginson steamed into the harbor of Michigan City and tied up at the wharf of the lumber company, and it was a heartily exhausted set of men that rolled into their bunks to snatch a wink before day should come, bringing more work with it.

At eight o'clock Halloran walked over

CURIOUS FREAK OF LIGHTNING

This photograph was taken at night during a heavy thunderstorm, which was accompanied by very vivid lightning. It shows, apparently, a flash of lightning issuing from the center of the arc light, and from the center of the gas lamp also. Such a freak may be expected from an arc light, but for an innocent and harmless gas lamp to indulge in such an electrical display seems incredible. The negative is perfect, showing no scratches or marks that would produce this extraordinary picture. Will some photographic expert explain what those streaks mean? So far this picture has baffled all attempts at explanation by those who have seen it.

DR. KILMER'S
SWAMP-ROOT
Kidney, Liver and Bladder
CURE.
DIRECTIONS.
May take one, two or three teaspoonfuls before or after meals and at bedtime.
Children less according to age.
May commence with small doses and increase to full dose or more, as the case would seem to require.
This great remedy cures all kidney, liver, bladder and Uric Acid troubles and disorders due to weak kidneys, such as catarrh of the bladder, gravel, rheumatism, lumbago and Bright's Disease, which is the worst form of kidney disease.
It is pleasant to take.
PREPARED ONLY BY
DR. KILMER & CO.,
BINGHAMTON, N. Y.
Sold by all Druggists.

ARE YOUR KIDNEYS WEAK?

Thousands of Men and Women Have Kidney Trouble and Never Suspect It.

To Prove what the Great Kidney Remedy, Swamp-Root, Will Do for YOU, Every Reader of The Blade May Have a Sample Bottle Sent Absolutely Free by Mail.

It used to be considered that only urinary and bladder troubles were to be traced to the kidneys, but now modern science proves that nearly all diseases have their beginning in the disorder of these most important organs.

The kidneys filter and purify the blood; that is their work.

Therefore, when your kidneys are weak or out of order, you can understand how quickly your entire body is affected, and how every organ seems to fail to do its duty.

If you are sick or "feel badly," begin taking the great kidney remedy, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, because as soon as your kidneys are getting better they will help all the other organs to health. A trial will convince anyone.

I was a constant sufferer for a number of years with weakness of the kidneys and back and frequent desire to urinate, but after using Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, I am entirely cured and cheerfully recommend this wonderful remedy to any who may suffer from these common complaints.

Most truly yours,
W. C. Baily, 2d Lieut. of Police,
Columbus, Ga.

Weak and unhealthy kidneys are responsible for many kinds of diseases, and if permitted to continue much suffering and fatal results are sure to follow. Kidney trouble irritates the nerves, makes you dizzy, restless, sleepless and irritable. Makes you pass water often during the day and obliges you to get up many times during the night. Unhealthy kidneys cause rheumatism, gravel, catarrh of the bladder, pain or dull ache in the back, joints and muscles; make your head ache and back ache, cause indigestion, stomach and liver trouble, you get a sallow, yellow complexion; make you feel as though you had heart trouble; you may have plenty of ambition, but no strength; get weak and waste away.

The cure for these troubles is Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the world-famous kidney remedy. In taking Swamp-Root you afford natural help to Nature, for Swamp-Root is the most perfect healer and gentle aid to the kidneys that is known to medical science.

(Swamp-Root is pleasant to take.)

How To Find Out

If there is any doubt in your mind as to your condition, take from your urine on rising about four ounces, place it in a glass or bottle and let it stand twenty-four hours. If on examination it is milky or cloudy, if there is a brick-dust settling, or if small particles float about in it, your kidneys are in need of immediate attention.

Swamp-Root is pleasant to take and is used in the leading hospitals, recommended by physicians in their private practice, and is taken by doctors themselves who have kidney ailments, because they recognize in it the greatest and most successful remedy for kidney, liver and bladder troubles.

If you are already convinced that Swamp-Root is what you need, you can purchase the regular fifty-cent and one dollar size bottles at the drug stores everywhere. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—You may have a sample bottle of this wonderful remedy, Swamp-Root, sent absolutely free by mail also a book telling all about Swamp-Root, and containing many of the thousands upon thousands of testimonial letters received from men and women who owe their good health, in fact their very lives to the great curative properties of Swamp-Root. In writing to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure to say you read this generous offer in The Toledo "Weekly Blade."

to the company's office and inquired for the manager.

"I'm Halloran," he said, "of Higginson & Company. How soon can you begin unloading?"

"Right away," replied the manager civilly, but with an odd expression. "I'm just sending some men down." His surprise was so great that it had to find some expression. He seemed to be thinking it over as he left his desk to go to the wharf. Finally, he added, "You're prompt on time."

"Sure," replied Halloran. "Why not?"

CHAPTER IX:—A VENTURE IN MATRIMONY.

It was Saturday night on the North Side, and shortly after six o'clock. That part of the world that centres in North Clark street, between Lincoln Park and the Bridge, was already beginning to stir and stretch and shake off the dust of the day; was swarming in from scores of cross streets, to parade before the show-windows and pour into the beer gardens and restaurants, to crowd at the corners—a motley company of washed and unwashed; of laborers and shopgirls hurrying home, and of more fortunate ones, old and young, sauntering from home, to get out of life what North Clark street had to offer.

Strains of music floated out over board fences that were gaudy with posters, out over evergreen hedges that thrived in green tubs. All the world was gay tonight; all the world was in the mood to sit at white tables under the trees and dine on the best of German fare, to tip back and listen to German music from German orchestras, to toss the waiter half a dollar; life was gay, life was jolly; all was well with the world. No half-lights here, no miserly crouching in shadows, no gloomy ones to spoil it all; nothing but froth on the glass, a laugh on the lip, and here's looking at you!

But think again. Of all these houses of amusement was there not one standing empty—was there not one where gloom reigned? Glance along the street, pass the policeman on the corner—the fat policeman, for whose sake we will hope all thieves are slow of foot—down past other corners and other fat policemen, down almost to the river, so near that the smell of the water poisons the air. Was there not a dingy little playhouse, overwhelmed by the soot and grime of the city, by the noise of the trains that seemed to be rushing into the building with bells ringing and every steam-valve open—overwhelmed, too, by the rattle and struggle of the street, and the large buildings that crowded so close on each side that they threatened to come together with a snap and leave no trace of the dingy little structure with its porte cochere front. If there was, anywhere in this big city, a building that spoke of failure, of pitiful inadequacy for any metropolitan purpose, of aimlessness and inevitable wreckage, here it stood, bearing the hesitating announcement that within might be found Somebody's Original Oriental Burlesquers and Refined Vaudeville.

Not long after six o'clock was it, and the lingering remnants of a very thin audience were rapidly escaping before the onslaught of the "chasers." The particular chaser that held the stage at the moment was a tall, thin young man, rather nimble as to the legs, who was exercising a sound pair of lungs on a song, a tender memory of a certain Bridget O'Grady, who, he vowed, was a perfect lady. The fiddles squeaked and rasped, the piano tinkled, the bass viol rumbled in loudest of all; and the audience grew thinner and thinner—narrowed down in fact, to a few questionable individuals who had, one feared, no better place to go. After the song there was a dance in which the nimble legs appeared to some advantage. And if we had been tucked away in a corner of that dirty stage, behind the wings that were slit and frayed from years of service—if we had watched the Irish vocalist when he came off and readjusted his carroty wig, we could not have failed to recognize in the possessor of the nimble legs and the sound lungs of our old friend Apples.

Somewhere in the course of his career Apples had dropped a stitch: for the goal of all true Thespians, the myriad-minded Shakespeare, was still no more than a twinkling constellation that shone and shone in the far heavens, serenely unconscious that one Appleton Le Duc was striving upward. But was it not an encouragement to recall the inspiriting words of the professor of elocution, that Shakespeare himself had been a country boy; that he, too, had gone to the city to seek his fortune; that he, too, had stumbled and struggled, and climbed and climbed until he had reached the highest pinnacle of fame?

Something was certainly on the mind of the rising actor tonight—something that elevated him above the dingy hall and the sleepy audience. Pausing only to mop his brow, back he went in response to his encore—the encore that was mentioned in his contract—as cheerfully as if the audience had really given him the sound lungs burst out again to an a hand; and the sound lungs burst out again to another scraping, tinkling, rumbling accompaniment; and the voice of Apples rose high in the praise of Mary, my fairy, the Maid of Ochlone, whose heart-dum-de-dumdy-dum-surely-my-own. The sight of a newspaper spread wide before the face of the only occupant of an orchestra seat could not disturb Apples this evening; the glimpse of two newsboys in the gallery, aiming with peanuts at the bald head behind the newspaper, could not so much as ruffle him; for golden-haired Mary, de-doodle-dee-fairy, dee-iddle-dee-airy, ta raddle-my-own. Very blithe was Apples, strangely blithe for an underpaid chaser in the most despondent theatre on the North Side.

There was another little scene taking place at this time in which we are interested. In the lodging of Mrs. Craig—not two rooms now, but one, with a decrepit cook stove in one corner and a ragged quilt hung across another corner to serve as a partition between George's bedroom and the rest of the space—a silent woman was cooking a meagre supper. A very silent woman was Mrs. Craig at this time, even more so than formerly. The room was hot and close with the odor of cooking.

Into this home, at a little before six, came Lizzie Bigelow, grown rather more mature in appearance since we last saw her, of a rounder figure and a brighter color. She was in good spirits tonight. By some miracle she was as fresh and healthy as if she had been given nothing but the best of food, the purest air and plenty of time for exercise; and to the mother it seemed as if a whiff of fresh air had come with her into the room.

"Well, Lizzie, you are back early."

"Yes; I got off at half-past five. Where is George?"

"He has to work late tonight."

"Oh, yes; I forgot. You are tired, ma. You sit down awhile and let me finish the supper. She was throwing aside her hat and jacket as she spoke, and she smiled at her mother in a way that brought an expression of gratefulness and surprise to the face of the older woman. "Now you just sit down awhile. I'm going to get supper ready tonight."

It appeared that she really meant it; and the mother, after a little protesting made way for her by the stove. Indeed, it promised to be quite a jolly evening, if only George could get home in time to share it. Even without him, what with a merry recital of the funny things that had happened at the office during the day, and with other talk of an equally unusual good humor, Mrs. Craig was almost bewildered. She knew only too well how unexpectedly Lizzie's high spirits could turn corners, how petulent this merry, black-eyed girl could be.

After supper, announcing that she was going to get a breath of resh air, Lizzie went out, first ingeniously smuggling a small package outside the door under pretense of opening it for air. Next she put on her hat and jacket and stood for a moment smiling; finally she bent over her mother and kissed her, an act so surprising that Mrs. Craig flushed with pleasure. Then, with a nervous little laugh and a fling of her skirts, she had whisked out and the door was closed. There was a pause at the top of the stairs while she fumbled in her pocket for a folded slip of paper which she tucked silently into the crack of the door, but at last she was off, running down the stairs with her bundle held tightly under her jacket, and hurrying across the street to avoid meeting George in case he should be returning home at this hour.

* * * * * * * *

The encore was over and Apples was hurrying, wig in hand, to the dressing room. There he threw off his costume, dressed for the street, packed all his "properties" hastily in an old valise, and went out at the stage door. The doorkeeper nodded to him.

"You're off now, are you?"

"Yes; I'm through here."

"Got your pay?"

"Some of it."

"You're lucky."

"Guess I am. Good night."

"Good night."

(To be Continued.)

A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES.

Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Your druggist will refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure you in 6 to 14 days. 50 cents.

We don't know what it means to "bow to the inevitable," unless it means to take off one's hat to one's wife.—Atchison Globe.

ACROSS THE WAY.

ELIZABETH AYRES.

It is never safe to jump at conclusions or to judge by appearances. Neither is it safe to think a thing is so until one has actual proof; it is so easy to be mistaken.

When the house across the way was built, everyone who lived near was glad, because the lot on which it stands was the only vacant one in that side of the block, and the empty, uncared-for plot of ground looked like the ugly vacancy caused by a missing tooth in an otherwise perfect set. So the new house completed the symmetry of the row of dwellings.

The growth of the house was watched from its foundation to the tops of its chimneys, and approved or disapproved as it chanced to affect different fancies. After it was finished, the family moved in and before very long the house assumed the aspect of a home. There was only a young man and his wife in this particular family, and they seemed to go joyously hand in hand down the highway of life. When the young man went to his business in the morning, he stepped robustly with the dignity of a determined purpose in his soul and the vigor of a conqueror in his legs. He looked as if he meant to accomplish much. His wife almost always followed him to the edge of the veranda and watched him until he turned the corner of the street, where he took off his hat with a royal flourish in response to the wave of her hand.

At night the lights were bright behind the lace curtains, and the electric lamp on the veranda shone brilliantly. Frequently there were visitors in the evening, and if one happened to be near when the door was opened, the notes of a piano and the sound of merry-making voices escaped in a gust of music to the outer world, until the door was closed and shut them in again. Someway, it seemed as if the two in the new house were more than ordinarily happy. Certainly, outward indications led to that conclusion.

Houses are a good deal like people when one comes to think it over. Their exterior appearance betrays the character of their inner life. If content is within, it is reflected without, and there is exactly the other expression when conditions are reversed. It is the human influence, the strongest thing in the world, which envelops and absorbs and permeates even inanimate things with the characteristics and personality of those to whom they belong. The house across the way showed that it held happiness. Its window panes twinkled when the sunlight fell upon them, and its red roof gleamed rosily against the sky.

Everybody loves happiness. If they do not possess it themselves, they are exhilarated by its proximity and linger, fascinated, by its spell. And so the new house and its people were objects of interest to the neighborhood.

When it happened one night the rooms behind the lace curtains did not burst into light, and the black hollow of the veranda peered out from the blacker shadows of the closed portals, something seemed to be missing from the street that had given it warmth and cheer. The day revealed the same look of desertion. The closely drawn shades turned the windows into blank, sightless eyes. The smokeless chimneys loomed cold and desolate. The life of the house was gone. It stood empty and forbidding, and the change attracted attention.

It was supposed the young man and his wife had gone on a journey. Then some one discovered that the young man came early every morning and stopped on the sidewalk in front of his house. After standing there a few moments he went away, to return again in the same mysterious manner the next morning. This continued until the days had added themselves into weeks. Rumor leaped from the springboard of conjecture and spelled disaster. Trouble was scented in the air, and that which was not known was imagined, for lack of better explanation.

Because the young man came every morning to his home, it was concluded he was haunting the tomb of his wrecked happiness. His wife had left him. Probably there was fault on both sides, but it was too bad they had come to so tragic a finality. Meantime, the rest of the world went on the same and the empty house kept its secret well.

The second change came as suddenly as the first. One afternoon, just at the edge of dusk, a cab lurched around the corner and rolled along the street, the horse's hoofs clicking like castanets on the pavement. It stopped in front of the house across the way. The young man and his wife got out and hurried up the walk. They had not been long in the house before the shades flew up, and, presently, the lights were bright behind the curtains.

There had been no tragedy of separation. The young man's wife had only been for a visit to her mother. While she was gone, the young man had lived down town, coming out each morning to his home to make sure it was still in its place and conducting itself properly.

Now, the holly wreaths hang in the windows. Through the lace curtains there are glimpses of Christmas greens festooning the walls, and there are dancing flickers from the fire flaming on the hearth.

Once more the house across the way looks happy. Frequently there are visitors in the evening, and if one chances to be near when the door is opened the notes of a piano and the sound of merry-making voices flee in a gust of music to the outer world, until the door is closed and shuts them in again.

LAND CRAB SPIDER.

Viewed from a distance the principal object in the reproduction of a photograph below bears a striking resemblance to that crustacean you will find in all the museums of natural history, and which

is commonly known as the land crab, or to some gigantic spider. It is simply the exposed roots of a great tree which was overturned in a recent storm. Surely Dame Nature has a sense of humor and occasionally enjoys a joke of her own perpetration.

Lowly End of a Famous Ship.

The Enterprise, which took part in the search for Sir John Franklin, is to be used for pile driving for the Dover Harbor works. The Enterprise and the Investigator left England, under Captains Collinson and McClure respectively, in January, 1850, and it was in the May of 1855 that Captain Collinson returned home after one of the most remarkable voyages ever recorded even in the fascinating story of Arctic exploration. Of all the expeditions fitted out by the government to discover Franklin's fate Collinson's came nearest to success, and his voyage has been described as a record of patience, endurance and unflagging perseverance, under difficulties which have perhaps never been surpassed."

It is just a common cold, people say, there's no danger in that. Admitting their statement, then there are *uncommon* colds, colds which are dangerous; for many a fatal sickness begins with a cold. If we could tell the common cold from the uncommon we could feel quite safe. But we can't. The uncommon variety is rarely recognized until it has fastened its hold on the lungs, and there are symptoms of consumption.

At the first symptoms the careful person will heed the warning by taking a mild laxative; some vegetable pill that will not disturb the system or cause griping. About the best is "Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets." If the cold starts with a cough, and it persists then some local treatment for this condition should be taken. A well known alterative extract, which has been highly recommended by thousands of users, is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. This tonic compound is composed of an extract of roots and herbs and has a soothing effect upon the mucous membrane, allays the irritation and at the same time works in the proper and reasonable way, at the seat of the trouble—the stagnated or poisoned blood.

It contains no alcohol to shrivel up the blood corpuscles, but makes pure rich red blood.

Dr. Pierce's 1000-page illustrated book, "The Common Sense Medical Adviser," is sent free in paper covers on receipt of 21 one-cent stamps to pay cost of mailing *only*. For 31 stamps the cloth-bound volume will be sent. 1008 pages. It was formerly sold for $1.50 per copy. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

Recent Literature.

The following books have been received by The Blade from the publishers named. For further information address the publishers, not us:

From Harper & Brothers, Franklin Square, New York:

A Keystone of Empire is a companion volume to the biography of the Empress Elizabeth of Austria, told under the title of The Martyrdom of an Empress, by the same author, this one covering the life of the Emperor, Francis Joseph. It is as fascinating as any romance, and even though it enters into the smallest details, it never loses its interest.

Mark Twain's Protest is his plaint against the way his classic, The Jumping Frog of Calaveras County—with the accent on the "ve,"—has been translated into French. In order to make his grievance clear he has caused to be made into a book, the original version of the Jumping Frog, preceded with explanatory remarks by its author, and followed by the French version of The Frog, which is in turn followed by a literal translation of tihs same frog as it has been "clawed" from the French back into English by Mr. Clemens.

Monologues, by May Isabel Fisk, is a jolly sort of a book, strictly under the reign of fun, which tells of the queer and laughable things people do, especially women people.

Symbol Psychology, by Rev. Adolph Roeder, gives the result of a long and careful study of the meaning of the various myths which are to be found among all nations.

From Richard D. Badger & Co., 157 Tremont St., Boston:

The above firm have published a number of small volumes of new poetry. They are:

Songs by the Wayside, by Mrs. F. Fischer, is a collection of miscellaneous poems.

The Musician, by Frank Waters, is a narrative poem founded on a legend of the Hartz mountains.

The Song at Midnight is a collection of odes, lyrics and sonnets by May M. Adams.

Barefoot Time is a book of child's verses, by Adelbert Farrington Caldwell.

Sonnets of the Head and Heart, by Joseph Warren Beach, is fully described by its title.

A Pilgrim Jew, by Rev. Chas. Coke Woods, is a metrical romance which pays a tribute to the Jews.

The Conceit of a General Lover, by Edward W. Barnard, is made up of sparkling little verses of society.

The Age of Ivory, by Henry Harmon Chamberlin, is an alleged humorous poem, showing how much better it would have been had the elephant evolved instead of the ape.

The Apex, a little prose volume by Thomas B. Gould, is full of suggestive ideas, which will give food for meditation at any hour it may occupy the attention.

From the Bobbs Merrill Co., Indianapolis:

She That Hesitates is an historical novel, its scene being Russia at the time of Peter the Great. The action is continuous and the interest held throughout.

Johnnie, a Memory of Boyhood, by E. S. Laughlin, is a splendid story of a country boy, which is so popular it has appeared in a new edition.

From the Fleming H. Revell Co., Chicago:

The Country Boy, by Forrest Crissy, is a volume of sketches, well illustrated, of typical American country boys.

That Betty, by Harriet Prescott Spofford, is a very pretty love story, whose climax is eminently satisfactory.

From L. C. Page & Co., Boston:

The Cathedrals of Northern France, by Francis Miltoun, describes those buildings and has 80 illustrations from original drawings by the author.

Music in Art, by Luna May Ennis, consists of sketches of musicians and artists who have won the laurel and indissolubly intertwined their arts. The book has 33 illustrations from celebrated paintings.

Borlase & Son, by T. Baron Russell, is a charming story of the business life of a boy in London. John Lane, 67 Fifth avenue, New York.

Life of Simon Sterne, by John Foord, is the record of the life of a man who left behind him a record of well-doing in the service of humanity, which ought to be remembered. The Macmillan Co., 66 Fifth avenue, New York.

In California, by Mary Hallock Foote, contains four excellent short stories, full of Pacific slope color. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

Rhymes from a Round-Up Camp, by Wallace David Coburn, is a new edition of a volume of verse describing cowboy life twenty years ago. George P. Putnam's Sons, 27 West Twenty-third street, New York.

Merry Hearts, by Anne Story Allen, tells of the adventures of two bachelor girls, with a very happy ending. Henry Holt & Co., New York.

Pioneer Spaniards in North America, by William Henry Johnson, begins its information with the men who were companions of Columbus, and follows the spread of Spanish conquest and colonization from the islands of the Caribbean to the mainland. Little, Brown & Co., Boston.

The Call of the Twentieth Century is an address to young men by Daniel Starr Jordan, of Leland Stanford university. It is inspiring. American Unitarian Association, Boston.

The New Order of Things includes twelve letters by the Rev. Adolph Roeder, supposed to be written by a father to his son, concerning the true meaning of the scriptures. The Nunc Licet Press, Philadelphia.

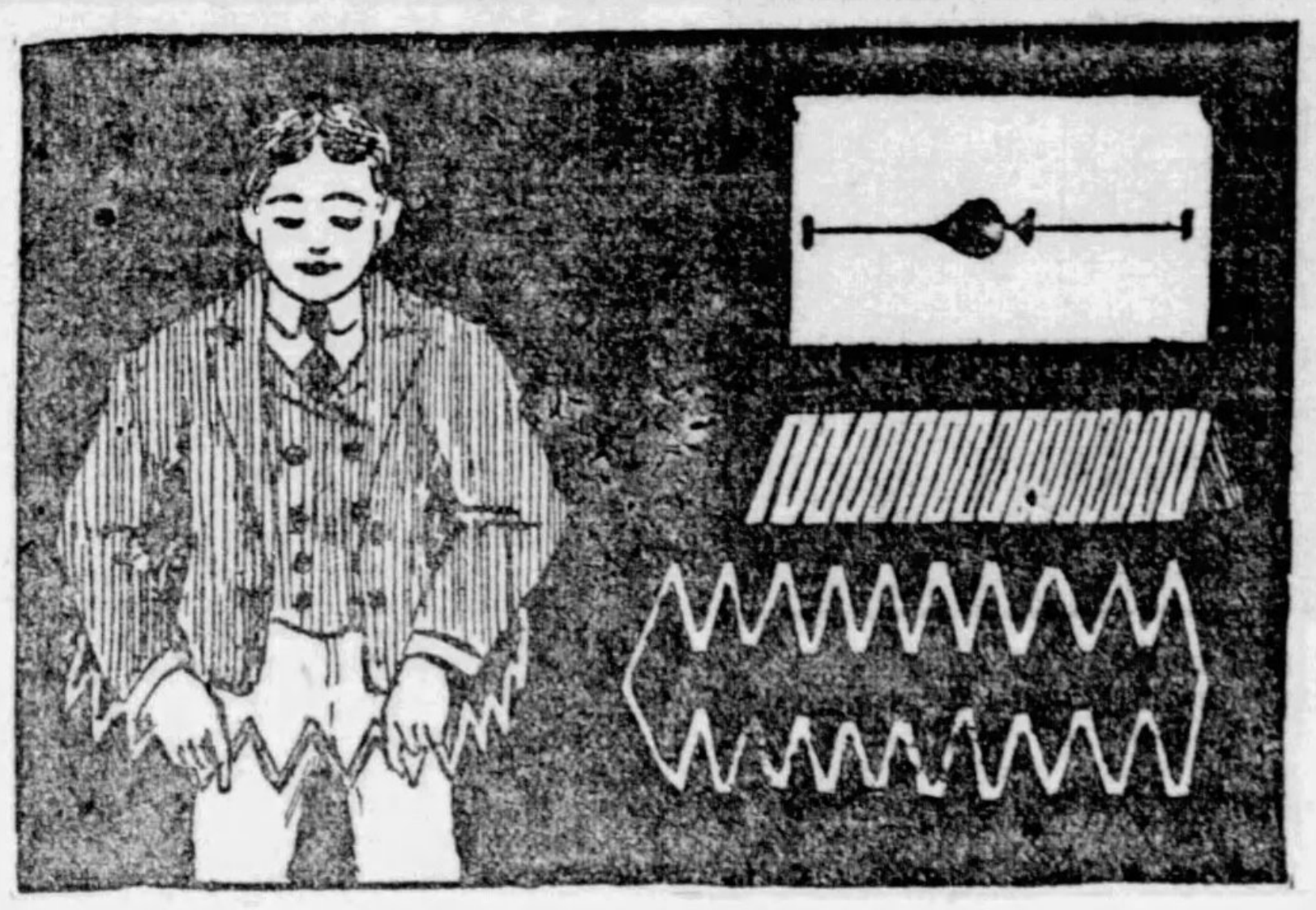
With the return of the holiday season comes, from Raphael Tuck & Sons, New York, a "sample lot" of cards and calendars for holiday souvenirs. All that is new and novel in this line of artistic publications is represented, and the gay colors, pretty sentiments and merry jests help to make glad the gala time. High-class lithography, apt illustrations and pleasing text distinguish both calendars and cards.

What is said to be the largest steer in the world has been sold by James Swope, of Kokomo, Ind., to a syndicate of Greentown men, who will fatten it for the World's Fair. The steer is four years old and weighs 2,800 pounds. When fat it will weigh 4,000 pounds.—Chattanooga Times.

TIGER SLAIN WITH AN AXE.

This dead tiger, which measured nine feet ten inches from its nose to the tip of its tail, was a "man eater." It was driven into Pyrinmana, a village of Upper Burmah, by adjacent jungle fires. After attacking a man and a woman it was killed by a native policeman, who, armed with an axe, struck it a well aimed blow behind the ear. This photograph was taken outside the court house two hours after the event. There the carcass was dragged in order that the government reward might be claimed.

TRICK WITH A PLAYING CARD



METHOD OF CUTTING THE CARD.

No matter how small you may be, you are certainly a great deal bigger than a whole pack of cards, so if you hold up a single card and ask your friends if they think you are small enough to go through it, I feel sure that they will say "no."

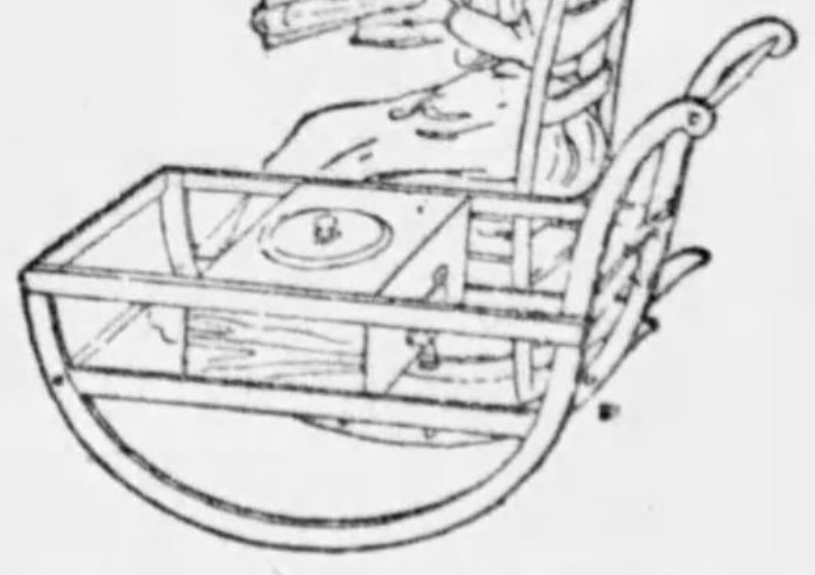
But you can do it easily enough with the aid of a little preparation of the card. Of course, everybody will understand that you have to make a hole in the card in order to go through it, and it rests with you to say what sort of a hole you will make. Now, here is the way to make the hole.

With a sharp knife make a slit through the middle of the card, lengthwise, reaching nearly to each end.

Then fold the card lengthwise along this slit, and with knife or scissors make ten or more slits through both thicknesses crosswise. These slits extend from the long slit nearly to the sides of the card. Now, if you unfold the card you will have it in the singlar shape shown in the picture. It is almost all hole, you see, though it is still all whole, and by spreading and stretching it carefully you can pass through it without any trouble.—Boston Herald.

Chair and Churn Combined.

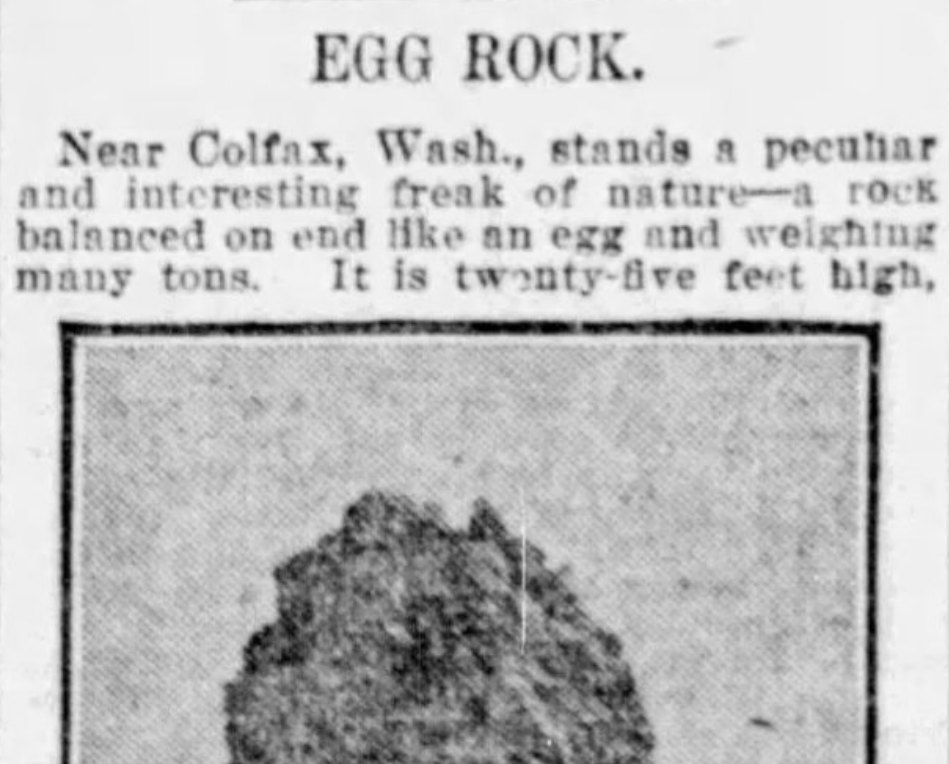
While the inventors have done away with the necessity of the tedious process of skimming pan after pan of milk of the cream which as risen to the top, and the dairymaid may now draw off the skimmed milk and cream through faucets, or better still, have the fresh milk run through a separator without loss of time, it is still necessary for the farm boy or some patient dog or sheep to churn the butter. In large creameries and butter factories it is, of course, necessary to provide a power churn for this work, but until the introduction of electricity on the farm on an extensive scale, with individual motors



to operate all the machinery, a power churn would prove too costly for the majority of farmers. There is no reason why the small boy should be compelled to stand and work the churn dasher for a half hour or more, while his mother spends her time seated in a rocking chair sewing or reading a book or paper and waiting for the butter to come. Why not adopt the scheme shown in the illustration, which has just been invented by a western man? The necessary apparatus consists of the rocker, carrying a cream receptacle of any desired size, the chair which operates the churn being already in use in nearly all houses. From the side of one of the churn rockers three pins project, and coresponding holes must be drilled in the chair rocker; then it is only necessary to connect the two, pour in the cream and occupy the mind with some other work while rocking for a short time. A woman can easily arrange to do mending or reading during this interval so that the time is not only doubly occupied with work, but the body is resting meantime.

EGG ROCK.

Near Colfax, Wash., stands a peculiar and interesting freak of nature—a rock balanced on end like an egg and weighing many tons. It is twenty-five feet high,



ten feet in diameter at the widest part and only four feet at the base. It is of lava formation, and has stood there for ages. It is called "Martha Washington," or egg rock, and is pointed out with pride by the people of Colfax.

The Strenuous Johnsons.

Jerry Johnson and Joe Rutledge husked corn last Monday.

Jerry Johnson and family were at the Hinton postoffice Saturday evening.

John Andress and family, of North Blackcreek, spent Sunday with Jerry Johnson and family.

Jerry Johnson and family spent one day with Jefferson Andress and wife. The former is 80 years old.—Celina (O.) Democrat.

Will the President stand by the speaker in his defiance of the Senate? It is an interesting question. The President cannot afford to make any more enemies, and yet it is well known that he thinks the Senate needs to be taken down a peg.—Rochester Union and Advertiser.

HOW DOTH THE LITTLE BUSY BEE

Art Is Required in the Manufacture of Good Honey.

Not all honey is alike toothsome, any more than all bread is of uniformly excellent quality. It depends in both cases upon the ability of the maker. To understand good honey-making one must study the very interesting habits of the bee, as exploited by some of the most fascinating writers, that they have not yet gotten their minds to the move-on point.

"The best honey is taken when the asters and goldenrod are in blossom," says Mrs. E. S. Starr, an authority on the subject. Compared with honey made when these two flowers are blooming sweet clover honey is very poor. None is lost, however, since the honey made from the less desirable flowers is taken from the bees and kept for their winter necessities. These patient toilers may know the difference, but they make no expression. Like good children, they eat what is set before them and neither grumble nor ask for more.

Next to the aster and goldenrod honey is that made in the spring. In many instances the charming spring flowers make as desirable honey as that which is sipped late in the summer. Not that bees are invariably engaged in making honey! Indeed, that touching, if old-fashioned, rhyme, "How doth the little busy bee improve each shining hour," might well be paraphrased in an up-to-date manner. Some of them are given to stinging. And here's an interesting point. One who owns many swarms and is often stung by the various members of these swarms says that only one swarm proves poisonous. Members of the others sting and annoy for the time, but the members of this one have a poisonous sting that is truly troublesome. Just why inhabitants of this hive should be fitted out with such very active poison is a mystery.

Last week being court week an unusual number of people came to town and Scriven street looked like a long barn yard. Towns much less pretentious than Quitman have a stable yard for the accommodation of vehicles and horses on some side street and leaves the streets free for the passage of people and vehicles, the purpose for which they were intended originally.—Quitman (Ga.) Free Press.

QUEERED ANTI-WORRY CURE

"I see a German physician has invented an infallible cure for worry," he observed, looking up from his newspaper.

"Umph! Good thing," said she, diving down into the work-basket for another holey stocking to darn. "Beyond the means of most women, I suppose?"

"Not at all. It's a very simple remedy. All you women ought to try it. It consists simply—let me see—in 'loosening the garments and lying down in an attitude of complete repose. The patient will find that her ills will roll from her mind like magic.' There!" he finished, triumphantly. "That's easy enough, isn't it?"

She laughed shortly.

"Yes, it is," she said, eyeing the big rents in a very little stocking. "It sounds beautifully easy. The next time the children are down with scarlet fever or diphtheria, or when they need new clothes and can't have them because there isn't money enough, or when you get into some spell of pneumonia, or when you bring somebody home to dinner and there isn't a decent thing in the house, or when the doctor sends in a bill about three times as big as we can pay, I'll just run upstairs and put on a kimono—or as I haven't a kimono would a calico wrapper answer, I wonder?—and curl up on the bed. And, of course, the children will get well right away, and the money will flow in! It's really a wonderful invention. I'll try it."

He coughed, shifted his paper and read diligently elsewhere while she smoothed out the wee stocking, picked up its mate, looked at it dubiously and began to draw its jagged rents together.

Picric Acid.

Picric acid, which is now used as an explosive, is nitrated carbonic acid. Picric acid was made more than 100 years ago from Indigo. It crystallizes in brilliant yellow scales, and it dyes all animal tissue an intensely brilliant yellow. It was used many years in the arts as a dyeing agent before its true character as an explosive was known. Picric acid is, indeed, a very peculiar substance. Although one of the most violent explosives known, it is one of the safest. If thrown into a white-hot furnace it burns away like pitch. If set on fire in the open air it burns with a yellow, smoky flame. It cannot be exploded in the open air, but if confined in a strong receptacle and ignited by a strong fulminating charge, it detonates with terrific violence, reducing the receptacle into fine fragments.

The Farmstead

Questions for Answers.

The following questions are submitted to readers for answer. We do this in the hope of getting the results of actual and successful experience, which will be the most valuable answers possible:

Can some of your readers tell me how to get rid of quack grass? I have a field with a lot of it. The more I plow and cultivate it, the better it grows. I have been told to cover the field with salt three inches deep. Will that kill it?—B., Onekama, Mich.

Will some kind reader tell me what to do for my cow? Her cream is ropy. It makes good butter and the milk, when sweet, tastes all right, but I can not sell the buttermilk. The cow is apparently well.—Mrs. P. A. C.

Two-year-old colt that began to get lame first in the fore leg, then in the hind leg, both on the same side. One seemingly is in the shoulder, the other in the hip. They do not swell and when at work the animal does not limp, but when I put in the barn he cannot get around in the stall. Will some reader please tell me the cause of it, and give a remedy?—T. N.

Can some reader tell me of a remedy for over-sweating in a horse? Also whether or not frequent sneezing is a sign of some trouble with a horse, and what should be done for it?—C., Palo Alto, Cal.

Will some one tell me how to girdle grape vines to increase the size of the fruit, and whether it pays?—N., Logan, O.

I have a mare that has swelled hind leg that seems to be calloused. Sometimes it swells very large, clear to her body. I have, at different times, reduced the swelling with salt and vinegar, but it does not stay reduced. When flies or mosquitoes bite, each leaves a lump. She is a fine mare and worth curing. I can not entirely reduce the swelling. Some call it the "big leg." Will some one tell me what to do?—S., Craig, Mo.

What is the matter with my cows? They have plenty of grain and hay, yet began falling off in their milk as soon as the cold weather came.—B., St. Paul, Minn.

Will someone please give a good wash for fruit trees to keep off insects?—S., Port Clinton, O.

A mare, 3½ years old, on the breast and sides is covered with pimples the size of a pea. They seem extending all over her. When you examine them, a small bunch of hair come off each. They seem to itch, as she is continually biting at them. I have been told she has been overheated, but to my knowledge she has never been driven hard. I had her in pasture all the fall. She had access to the orchard and ate a great many sour apples. That may have caused some blood disorder. Her appetite is good, and otherwise she seems to do all right. She looks somewhat rough in the coat also. If any one can give me any information on this subject I will be greatly obliged.—D., Strobleton, Pa.

Fish for His Pond.

Editor Farmstead:—Tell C., of Halstead, Kan., to get German carp to put in his pond. They will thrive well, even if the water is muddy.—R., Sugar Grove, Pennsylvania.

An Useful Liniment.

Editor Farmstead:—Let every Blade reader cut this out. It is good for man and beast. I would say to R. that this will cure his mare, by bathing the sores. It is good for blood poison and barb-wire cuts: Eight ounces of sweet oil and two ounces of gum camphor. Crumble the gum camphor into the oil. Shake and it is ready to use.—B., Macksburg, Iowa.

Kidney Worm in Horses.

Editor Farmstead:—Is there such a thing as kidney worms in horses? I recently came into upossession of a stallion 2 years old last May, and have been told that he had kidney worm last winter and laid down nearly all the time. He is now well and hearty, and lies down every night. His feed is hay and fodder. Will some reader please suggest anything. The colt will weigh 1,000 pounds.—M., Mt. Ephraim, O.

Measuring Hay in the Stack.

Editor Farmstead:—Answering C., of California, here are two rules for measuring hay in the stack: When the stack is square, multiply the length in feet by width in feet and this by half the height. Then divide the product by 300. Thus, if a stack is 15 feet long, 15 feet wide and 15 feet high, 15 times 15 times 15, divided by 300 equal 11¼ tons.

For a round stack, multiply the square of the distance around the stack in yards by four times the height in yards, and point off two places from the right. This will be the number of cubic yards in the stack, which, divided by 20, will equal the number of tons.

Thus, if a stack is 20 yards around the bulge and 10 yards high, 20 times 20 equal 400; multiplied by 40, equals 16,000; 16,000 divided by 20 equals 8 tons.

I do not know the measurement called the government rule.—R., Sugar Grove, Pennsylvania.

Making Vinegar.

Editor Farmstead:—In a November number a certain reader of The Blade gave instructions how to make cider into vinegar quickly, by using beech shavings for filtering the cider. I would like to know if beech sawdust will do as well. How large a box should be used for filtering? I have taken The Blade almost three years, and could not keep house without it.—H., Upper Sandusky, O.

Will the person who sent the formula please answer? We are sure, however, the sawdust will not do. Shavings are used, so that there can be free access to the air, to oxidize the sugar in the cider into acetic acid. Beech shavings are used because they will not give a taste to the vinegar.

Curry Your Cows.

Editor Farmstead:—Cows should be curried and brushed. The proceeding will pay. The curry-comb should have steel blades without teeth. I have none to sell and do not know the maker's name, of a comb with four steel blades five inches long, two blades converging from the other two. A leather hand hold is fastened on the back by four rivets.—H., Indiana.

There are a number of different makes of such implements, without teeth, any of which is good. Then there is a circular disk, of sheet steel, with points punched up from the under side, which is even better to use on cows. Any dealer in agricultural supplies can show you different varieties.—Editor Farmstead.

Hollow Horn.

Editor Farmstead: Tell F., of Gibbon, Neb., that cattle with the hollow horn will water at the eyes, and the horn will get cold up to the head. The cause of it I do not know. For the hollow horn, take a bit about one-eighth of an inch in size or a gimlet and open the horn about two or three inches from the head, on the under side of the horn. The horn will be hollow. If it is in the summer time use turpentine to keep the flies off.—M., Abb, Virginia.

Tanning a Hide.

I am anxious to receive information as to an easy method of preparing a green hide for a laprobe.—D., Jamestown, Kan.

The editor thinks the joke is on the writer of the above. If he will turn to The Blade of December 3—just four weeks ago—he will find, in the Farmstead, exactly what he wants. Why do not our friends read all the departments each week?

Rainfall and Sun Spots.

Statistics of the rainfall in the British Isles, Brussels, Madras, Bombay, Cape Town and the upper Ohio valley, under investigation by Professor W. J. S. Lockyer, show a long period variation at all the stations, and, further, the occurrence of the greatest rainfall in the years 1815, 1845 and 1878-83, with the minima about the years 1825-30, 1860 and 1893-5. Based on the assumption that the apparent law already recognized holds good, the statement is made that the year 1913 will be about the middle of the next wet epoch. The sun spot curves show a close correspondence to the rainfall curves, the minimum of sun spots paralleling roughly the maximum of rainfall. Dr. Lockyer concludes that since this long period rainfall cycle synchronizes so well with the solar changes, the latter may render valuable assistance in determining the epochs of these dry and wet cycles.

The Apple Industry.

An illustration of the way in which specialization tends to promote the value and importance of an industry is furnished by recent information regarding the apple crop of this country. Not so many years ago apples were of comparatively slight account. Most farms, to be sure, had an apple orchard, the product of which was utilized for domestic consumption and for cider making. Little attention was given to the trees, and in fact they were considered of secondary concern, the orchard often being ploughed up and sown to some sort of grain or kept as a pasture field. Relatively few apples were sold, for with here and there an exception the fruit was not of a kind to find a profitable market. But all that has been changed. Some time ago it was discovered that by giving proper care to the cultivation and development of apples a very appetizing commodity could be produced and one which would find ready sale at fair prices. So the apple industry has become a large and growing one. The cold storage system has greatly aided in the work, as it permits of the preservation of the fruit in excellent condition and thus enhances its value. Some figures are of interest in this connection. On December 1, 1898, there were 800,000 barrels in cold storage and 400,000 barrels in ordinary storage. December 1, 1902, there were 2,978,050 barrels in cold storage and 1,236,750 in ordinary storage, a total of 4,214,800 barrels. The returns for this year are not yet in, but it is altogether likely that a corresponding increase has been made in the quantity of apples in storage, although the last season was not as favorable to apple production as some others have been.

ELECTRIC BELT SENT FREE

To all Men who Write to the Heidelberg Medical Institute, St. Paul.

Just send your name and address plainly written and they will send their great "Electro-Chemic Belt" without one cent of cost to you. It is yours for the asking. Not even necessary to send postage stamp.

GOOD AS ANY ELECTRIC BELT IN THE WORLD.

The Heidelberg Medical Institute, capitalized at $100,000, is the Largest and Richest Medical nstitute in the Northwest and is giving away housands of their Great Electro-Chemic Belts o prove and advertise their wonderful curing ower. The Great "Electro-Chemic" Belt will estore you to health and happiness. 18,976 illing men recently restored to vim, vigor and erfect manhood. It quickly cures Rheumatism, umbago, Lame Back, Nervous Exhaustion, Varicoele, Failing Vitality, Kidney Troubles, Liver, Stomach nd Sexual Diseases, General Weakness, Lost Nerve orce and many other ailments. It is worth from 20 to $50 to any one. It is given away absolutely ree by the master specialist to all those who eed the one great curative agent, electricity.

"SUFFERED EIGHTEEN YEARS, CURED AT LAST."

CASE 1768. Eighteen years ago I first noticed symptoms of nervous trouble that afterwards caused me great misery and suffering. I had pains in my back, and spent many restless nights. I had no control of my faculties, so that I was always at a disadvantage in whatever I undertook. I have been using the Electro-Chemic treatment of the Heidelberg Medical Institute about six weeks and I consider myself cured once more, and to be well is worth all a man has. S. T. H.

REMEMBER The Belt is not sent on trial but is yours to keep forever without the payment of one cent. So write today for the Great Electro-Chemic Belt Free. Mention this paper. Address Dept. 295

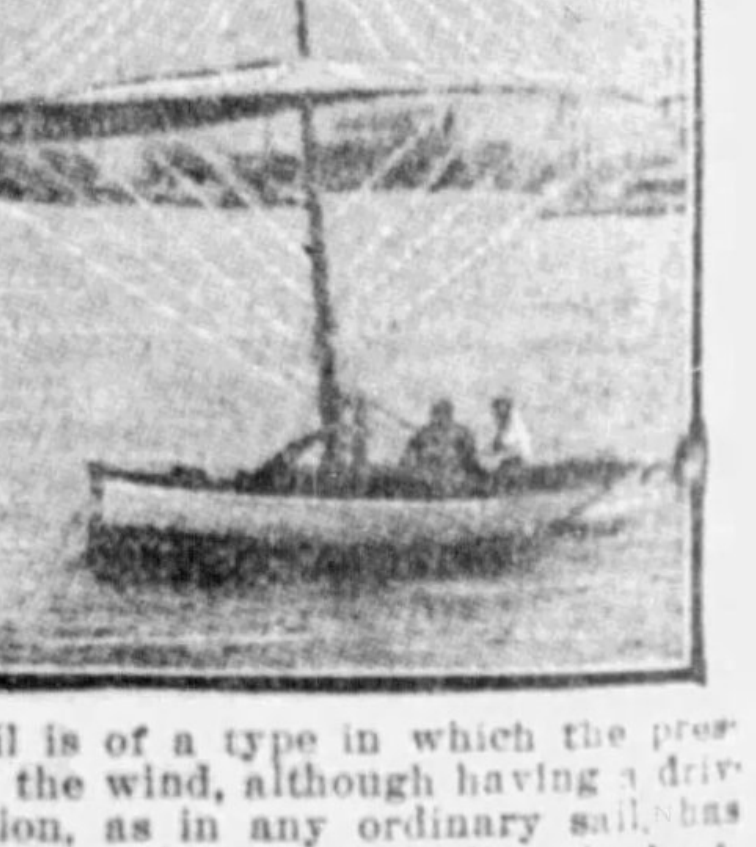
HEIDELBERG MEDICAL INSTITUTE
Fifth and Robert Sts., ST. PAUL, MINN.

Testing Soils for Crops.

The bureau of soils of the agricultural department has made an exhaustive investigation of the chemistry of soils as related to the yield of crops, and has formed some conclusions which appear to be in conflict with the opinions held for many years by agricultural chemists, but which conform to the experience of good farmers and with actual facts, which have heretofore been established by the chemists. It has been shown that practically all soils have sufficient available plant food for normal crop yields, and that this supply is constantly maintained through natural agencies in the soils dissolving the material of the soil grains. The difference in yield is dependent upon the condition and kind of cultivation and rotation of crops, maintaining certain necessary physical conditions in the soil under which this plant food can be used by the crop. These experiments have shown that the great nutritive solution for the support of crops is the soil moisture, and the results of the work are based not upon the digestion of the soils in acids, which attack the inert mineral matter of the soil, but upon the chemical analysis of the soil moisture itself. The fertility of the soil is shown to be due to physical causes which control the supply of water and plant food which it contains, as the soil moisture in all cases appears to be about the same in composition and concentration. The fertility is, therefore, controlled by a physical cause, and a chemical examination of the soil cannot be expected to indicate the yield of a crop. Some simple physical method will now have to be devised for determining the relative fertility of soils.

UMBRELLA BOAT.

This strange looking craft was once very conspicuous at the Cowes regatta.



The sail is of a type in which the pressure of the wind, although having a driving action, as in any ordinary sail, has no tendency whatever to incline the boat. The wind pressure acts practically at right angles to the mean surface of the sail, and, properly designing the sail, the line of pull is made to pass somewhat to the lee side of the boat, so that that side is rather lifted than depressed by the sail. By this means the extraordinary result is obtained that no matter how hard the wind blows the boat does not list. The sail can be put in any position for sailing with the wind from different points. The boat can be tacked or veered quickly.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25 cents.

He Got the Job.

"I was much amused the other day," said an uptown hardware dealer, according to the New York Press, "at a small boy who came around looking for a job. One of the clerks had dropped a lot of sharp-pointed tacks into a drawer of brass screws and had given up the idea of taking them out.

"When the youngster turned up looking for a job we thought we would try him out by letting him sort the two articles. He went at it the same way we had begun, picking out the tacks with his fingers and getting the point of every third tack in the ball of his thumb.

"He had enough in about a minute and he straightened up. We all began to smile, expecting him to give up the job. Instead of that he went over to the show case and picked out a horseshoe magnet. Then he came back to the box. In thirty seconds he had the tacks out and the screws were still in the compartment. He knew the magnet would attract iron and not brass, and in a jiffy he had accomplished what we had been trying to do all the morning.

"We didn't really need a boy, but this chap's smartness appealed to us, and we find him so handy to have around that next Saturday he gets a raise."

STARK TREES best by Test—78 YEARS. We WANT MORE SALESMEN PAY CASH Weekly
Stark Nursery, Louisiana, Mo.; Dansville, N. Y.

Question Bureau

RULES.—1.—Your real name and post-office address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2.—Ask only one question; that is, there may be several questions all on the same subject, but not different subjects. 3.—The editor of the Bureau is not allowed to give the address of any person or firm, nor about the reliability of any person or firm, nor where you can buy anything or sell anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. 4.—We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest; and will not answer any questions concerning prices of old coins, stamps, etc. 5.—Don't ask replies by mail. If a question is of general interest to our readers, we will reply in print, but never by mail.

The Great Dipper.

In your valuable paper of November 12 was a question under the head, "The Great Dipper." Observation leads me to differ from your reply to the question, "How often does the Great Dipper revolve around the north star?" I say once about every year. I send a drawing showing its position with regard to the pole star on March 11 last, and on November 18. Why does the Great Dipper change its position if it does not revolve around the north star?—E. H., Kansas City, Kan.

Our answer was quite correct as the question was asked. The Great Dipper does not revolve around the pole star at all. But the earth turns on its axis from west to east, making one complete rotation in 24 hours; and, as a result of this rotation, the sun, moon and stars appear to revolve westward around the earth. This apparent motion of the stars (for it is the earth's motion that makes it so appear) is around a line through the north and south poles of the earth. As the earth is inclined to the plane of the ecliptic, the motion of the stars around the north pole seems to be around the north pole of the heavens; even the pole-star describes a very small circle around the pole every 24 hours, for it is not directly over the north pole of the earth, but about a degree and one-half on one side.

But the revolution of the earth around the sun also causes an apparent motion of the stars westward, and it is the effect of this to which your question refers. Go out any clear evening, at 8 o'clock, and note what stars are on or near the meridian—an imaginary north and south line across the sky. A week later, at 8 o'clock in the evening, go out and look for the same stars; they will be found several degrees west of the meridian. This is because the earth has been moving in its orbit around the sun. This apparent motion is about one degree every 24 hours. If you would have patience to watch the heavens every night for a whole year at exactly the same hour, and every night were clear, you would see every visible star on or near that meridian in the course of that year. This is the motion of the Great Dipper to which you refer. The daily rotation of the earth seems to make the whole heavens revolve once every 24 hours; the revolution of the earth around the sun makes every star appear to be one degree further west at any given hour of the night than it was at the same hour the night before, and in the course of a year they have apparently completed the circuit of the heavens.

Do not fail to recognize this fact—that these motions of the stars are merely apparent; they remain stationary, at least so far as our eyes are concerned, while the earth moves, and we with it.

Nicknames of States.

Will you please tell me which state is called the Blue Hen state? This question comes into teachers' examination questions quite often.—E. S., Starksboro, Vt.

There is no state called the Blue Hen, but Delaware is called the Blue Hen's Chicken. We are surprised that school examiners in your state should ask such a trivial question as that. The use of nicknames grows less and less each year. This does not refer to personal diminutives, like pet names for young people; but to instances like the question you ask. Your school examiners should step forward about a half century in their ideas, and ask questions which test the knowledge of applicants on useful matters pertaining to their profession, not stupid nicknames.

Reciprocity With Cuba.

Please tell what effect the passing of the reciprocity treaty with Cuba will have on the interests of the beet sugar industry in America.—M. C. K., Loveland, Colo.

It will have no effect whatever. The entire sugar output of Cuba, if all sold in the United States, would not affect the price, because it is small when compared with the vast amount of sugar we must buy abroad. It is the largest supply which sets the price, every time. We do not produce in the United States much more than one-tenth of the sugar we consume. The other nine-tenths we must buy of foreign countries. The Cuban crop is not one-quarter of this, and hence can not affect the price. European beet sugar is the cheapest in the world.

Mountains of Ararat.

C. N. B., Dunbridge, O.: Agri Dagh, or Ararat, is a mountainous cluster of Western Asia, in a very mountainous and broken region. The group's two highest peaks are called Greater Ararat on the northwest, and Little Ararat, on the southeast. Their bases blend, but the summits are nearly seven miles apart. The summit of Greater Ararat is 17,323 above the sea level, while Little Ararat is lower by 4,000 feet. The higher peak is covered perpetually with snow and ice for 3,000 feet below its summit. The other is free of snow and ice in September and October. Both mountains are volcanic, and have probably been the scene of numerous eruptions, the last having taken place in 1840. The summit of Little Ararat is easily reached when there is no snow, and that of Greater Ararat was reached by Perrot, the explorer. You will see certain statements in your letter are therefore wrong.

Mrs. Mary J. Holmes.

Please give a sketch of the life of Mary J. Holmes.—A. H., Worthington, W. Va.

Mary Jane Hawes was born at Brookfield, Mass. She taught country school at 13, and began writing stories at 15. She married Daniel Holmes, a lawyer. She has been a voluminous writer of novels, of a rather mushy order, which, however, have had a wide circulation. They seem to appeal to a large class of undiscriminating readers.

Divisions of Christians.

K. Y., Draper, Va.: Even in the days of the apostles, as you will see by reading Paul's letters, there were divisions of opinion on matters of doctrine. The Jewish Christians—the church at Jerusalem—insisted that all converts should be circumcised, and conform to the Jewish law, before being received into the church, while Paul opposed this. After the apostles were all dead, the divisions of opinion on matters of doctrine were even greater. There arose the practice of holding ecumenical councils to settle these disputes. There were gatherings of all the bishops, and the majority decided the matter. For instance, Arius, a presbyter of Alexandria, preached that Jesus was not co-eternal with the Father. He said if Jesus was son, and God father, there must have been a time when the son was not. This dispute convulsed the church, and the famous Council of Nice was called to settle the matter. It decided against Arius. Another instance was the great doctrinal dispute which led to the separation of Eastern and Western churches. The one side held that the Holy Ghost proceeds from the Father and the Son; the other, that the Holy Ghost proceeds from the Father through the Son. This is the great doctrinal division between the present Greek church and the Roman Catholic church, and no council was able to settle it.

When the Reformation came, it was a revolt against the usurpation of unwarranted authority by the Pope of Rome, and a protest against doctrines and teachings of the Catholic church for which it was alleged no warrant can be found in Scripture. Because they so protested they were called Protestants. But they differ among themselves on matters of doctrine. In ancient days, when there was a difference in doctrine it was referred to an ecumenical council, which decided it; and those who did not yield to its authority were excommunicated. But there is no such thing as an ecumenical council among Protestants. Hence, when one became convinced in his own mind that he was right on a doctrinal point, and all others wrong, he started out and started a new denomination.

People forget that the claim of the infallibility of the Bible and its sufficiency as a guide in all doctrinal matters, was first advanced at the time of the Reformation. The Roman Catholic church has never assented to this view. While accepting the Bible, it has always claimed that the interpretation of the Bible on doctrinal points was the duty of the church, not of the individual person; that the ecumenical councils were and are inspired of the Holy Ghost, and that their decisions are therefore of equal weight and authority with the Bible; and, since the last ecumenical council, some quarter of a century ago, the Pope, in utterances on matters of faith and morals, is declared to be infallible. To this Roman Catholic attitude, the reply of the reformers was, in effect, "You claim an infallible church; we claim an infallible book—the Bible."

We can not undertake to give the differing views of Scripture which have led to the formation of so many sects among Protestants. The world is growing wiser and better, and within the last half century there has been a notable change among Protestants. They care much less for dogma and more for practical Christianity. The view now is that a man's religion is not judged by whether be believes this or that doctrine, but by his daily life—his conduct toward his fellowmen.

Pittsburg and Lake Erie.

If a canal were dug from Pittsburg to Lake Erie, which way would the water run—from the river to the lake, or from the lake to the river?—J. A. G., Henderson, Pa.

Your question evidently means, if there were no locks in the canal. We do not know, for we have nothing which gives the elevation of Pittsburg above sea-level. The surface of Lake Erie is about 800 feet above the sea. Pittsburg is certainly lower than that, and the water would run from the lake to the city.

But a canal through that region, without locks, is impracticable. It would have to lock up from Pittsburg to the highest point, and then lock down to the lake. The water from the upper level would have to be obtained from the head waters of the streams; and if a sufficient supply could not be obtained, the canal could not be built. It would cost too great a sum to cut a canal through the high land south of Lake Erie, to make a canal without locking up and down.

Limits of Telescopic Power.

Please inform me about the instruments which are used to discover the moon's conditions, its surface coverings, and its possibility of life. Have the instruments by which these phenomena are being worked out, gotten to the limit—i. e., have the glasses used gotten so far that no further or more definite examinations can be had? I am anxious to be enlightened.—M. E., Walla Walla, Wash.

The object-glass of a telescope is the large lens at the outer end of the tube—the one nearest the object looked at. The efficiency of an object-glass depends upon two conditions: First, its light-gathering power; second, its power of definition.

The light-gathering power is proportioned to its area. Theoretically a 6-inch glass will gather 4 times as many light-rays as a 3-inch glass, because the areas of circles vary as the squares of their diameters. But practically the light of the larger glass will be somewhat reduced, because the lenses are necessarily thicker; for all glass, no matter how pure, is slightly deficient in transparency. We may also compare the light-gathering power of a lens with that of the naked eye. All the light by which we see objects must pass through the pupil of the eye. The average pupil, in the dark, is about one-fifth of an inch in diameter. The ratio of this diameter to that of a 3-inch object glass is 15; so a star through a 3-inch telescope appears nearly 225 times brighter than it does to the naked eye.

The defining power of an object-glass is its ability to show fine details of the moon or of a planet perfectly sharp and clear. But defining power depends not only upon the perfection of the original disks of glass from which the two lenses of the object glass were ground, but upon the skill and patience of the optician who ground and polished them. Any considerable defect in either makes the object glass worthless.

Besides this, we must consider the magnifying power, and the limitations of the atmosphere. The magnifying power of a telescope never exceeds 100 to each inch of its diameter; and 70 to the inch is an average maximum. But the light which reaches us has to come through an atmosphere; and this is so unsteady that magnifying powers exceeding 50 to the inch cannot often be used to advantage in observing the planets. Every telescope has several eye-pieces, for use according to the condition of the atmosphere and the character of the object looked at.

It is the belief of most astronomers that we have reached nearly the limit of size at which a telescope can be used advantageously. Certainly no one of them hopes to have telescopes so improved that it would be possible to detect inhabitants in the moon, or any of their structures should any exist. But as it is pretty well established the moon has neither air nor water, then life such as we have on the earth is impossible.

How Forecasts Are Made.

How does the United States weather bureau make up its forecasts?—H. J. B., Villisca, Iowa.

There are about 150 weather stations in the United States, equipped with instruments for scientific observation of the various conditions necessary to enable forecasts to be made. These embrace the temperature, atmospheric pressure (told by the barometer), direction and velocity of the wind, amount of rainfall or snowfall, frost, whether cloudy or clear, etc.

Observations are made twice a day at all these stations at the same moment of actual time. The data from the observations are written in a brief cipher, to save telegraph tolls, and telegraphed at once to the weather bureau at Washington. From these the weather map for that hour is filled out and the weather forecast made, which is at once telegraphed all over the country.

Story of Barbara Fritchie.

Will you kindly state through the columns of The Blade how much truth and how much fiction there is in Whittier's beautiful poem, Barbara Frietchie?—F. P. T., Glouster, O.

That is something we can not do. The matter has been in dispute for years, and there seems to be no way of arriving at the truth. There was an old woman named Barbara Freitchie living in Frederick, Maryland, at the time of the confederate invasion. This is not disputed, and her grave is shown in the cemetery. But the incident concerning her and Stonewall Jackson is disputed, and so far as The Blade is concerned, we do not know whether Whittier's version is the truth or not.

The Moon.

How is it that the moon influences the tides and not also affects the crops? Is it not also claimed by some educated people that luna influences the minds of the insane, hence the origin of the word lunatic? Have the government experimental stations investigated the moon and crop theory? If so, what is the result of their investigations?—H. G. M., Russellville, Tenn.

It ought to be evident to you that the tides are caused by gravitation—by the attraction of the mass of the moon. The superstitious about the moon influencing crops all base their idea on the phases of the moon have an occult effect on vegetation. There is as broad a difference between the two as between science and superstition in other fields.

Our word "lunatic" is from the Latin word "luna," the moon, and was applied from the idea that the phases of the moon affected the disease—which it does not. Modern medical men are dropping the terms lunatic and lunacy, and use insane and insanity instead. No scientific man entertains the belief that the phases of the moon affect insane patients.

There have been, within the past century, a number of careful investigations into this old superstition that the moon affects crops, with the result invariably of showing that it has no basis in fact. Why should scientific men waste valuable time in disproving again what has already been disproved? That the phases of the moon have no such effect is now an accepted scientific fact. Why waste any more time or discussion in it?

Postage Not Equalized.

In the exchange of mail between the United States and foreign countries where and how is the postage equalized?—H. H. H., Atherton, Ind.

There is no arrangement whatever for equalizing postage on international mail. A letter is mailed in France for the United States. The French government gets the postage on it and the United States government carries the letter free. So, on a letter mailed here for a point in France, the United States gets the postage, and the French government carries it free to its destination. The same thing is true of all countries included in the international postal union. It is considered a just arrangement, for probably the amount of mail sent by one country to another equals that which the latter receives from the former; and, if this were not so, the plan is for the best interests of the people of each country, and promotes its business interests.

No National Holidays.

Is there not a possibility of error in your answer of a week or two ago in regard to national holidays?

In a little book called the "Pocket Argument Settler," the statement is made that, by act of congress, Labor Day was made a national holiday.—E. W. W., Sullivan, Ohio.

No. The Blade is right and the book is wrong in saying Labor Day is a "national" holiday. The act in question, by its own terms, limits its operation to the District of Columbia, and to employes in federal offices throughout the country. Congress has never assumed authority to enact a law making a holiday for the states. It is doubtful if it can do so constitutionally. That is among the reserved rights of the states, to be exercised through their legislatures. The proclamation of the President designating a day of Thanksgiving makes it a legal holiday only in the District of Columbia and in the territories, and in those states which have a law providing that any day set apart by the President shall be a legal holiday. In other states it requires a proclamation by the governor to make Thanksgiving a legal holiday.

A Case of Vacancy.

It is argued by the principal of the school here, and others, that, in case of the death of both the President and Vice President, if more than one year of the term was unexpired, there would be a special election called to elect a President. Is this true?—W. J., Burnt Prairie, Ill.

Why dispute upon such a question? Why waste time in argument, when you can turn to the law, and see its provisions? It vests the succession, in case there is neither President nor Vice President, in the members of the Cabinet, who possess the constitutional qualifications for the Presidency, in a fixed order, beginning with the Secretary of State. Then it provides that the new President, upon taking office, must convene congress in extraordinary session, if it be not in session, within twenty days.

And that is all it says. It does not contain any provision in case more than one year of the term is unexpired. It does not say there shall be a special election. It does not state why Congress shall be convened, if not already in session. The law itself is unsatisfactory on the latter point, for there is doubt whether Congress has the power to order a special election for President.

Confederate Money.

V. G. S., Etna, O.: Can you fix clearly in your mind the fact that confederate paper is of no value and never will be of any value? We suppose you have confederate notes. If you read the face you will find it says: "Sixty days (or some other period) after the ratification of a treaty of peace between the United States and the confederate states of America, the Confederate states will pay to bearer —— dollars." Now, there never was such a treaty of peace, and there never will be. And if the notes read "the Confederate states will pay, etc., the notes are valueless, because the Confederates states government passed out of existence with the surrender of Lee at Appomattox and with that its promises became worthless. Confederate notes are sometimes bought as curiosities, but for no other reason. The writer saw five notes of $100 and $1,000 denominations sell for 25 cents for the bunch, merely as curiosities.

The Southern Confederacy.

Will you tell what the people of the southern states expected to gain by secession?—A. R., Rock Falls, Ill.

They expected to be an independent government, the Confederate states of America, free from all political connection with the United States. Slavery was claimed to be the normal condition of the negro, and when the Confederacy was formed some southern statesmen went so far as to congratulate themselves that it was the first government which recognized the fact of the inferiority of that race, and to found a government based upon it.

Tempering Springs.

Will you kindly give a Blade reader the formula for tempering of springs?—U. G. D., Orontes, W. Va.

Heat to a cherry red in a charcoal fire and harden in lard oil or sweet oil. Then temper by "blazing off" the oil. Dip in the oil twice and blaze off.

Vote of Three States.

Within a week after the election on November 3, we began to receive requests for the total vote for governor of Ohio, Iowa and Massachusetts. As the official figures are not ascertained for anywhere from two weeks to two months after election, there was no way of answering. The official vote of Ohio was printed in the Weekly Blade, 5th page, head of 6th column, on November 26. The official vote of Massachusetts was printed in the issue of December 3, page 7, 4th column. We wrote to the secretary of state of Iowa for the vote of that state, which we received December 17. The total vote of each was:

Ohio	866,776
Massachusetts	388,635
Iowa	417,952

Geological Truth.

H. G., Lightsville, O.: It is hardly worth while to discuss such topics with persons who have not the necessary education as yet to appreciate the facts. All colleges, no matter by what denomination they are controlled, teach geology. It is a fact, proved by that science, and not disputed by any properly educated person who has studied this science thoroughly, that the age of the world must necessarily be reckoned by millions of years. This does not mean that man has inhabited the world that long, for he has not. He was one of the very latest animals to appear. Evidences of his presence, in the form of flint implements and weapons, have been found in the geological formations that are believed to be from 7,000 to 10,000 years old. Of course there is no way of telling how long man has existed on the earth, for it was not until he had become civilized, and learned the arts of writing and architecture, that he began to leave records from which the time can be reckoned. The Bible does not say the world was created only 6,000 years ago. Can you point to a passage which says any such thing?

Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

C. E. E., Jackson, Mich.: Ella Wheeler Wilcox was born in Johnstown Center, Wis., in 1855; began writing stories when a young girl; later wrote poetry, and achieved some prominence from the "intensity" of her poetic effusions. She married Robert M. Wilcox in 1884. She is now a writer on a couple of yellow journals. She has published a number of books.

Midshipmen at Annapolis.

Please explain what course a young man would have to pursue to get into the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and what branches he would have to be examined on.—A. G. K., Pilcher, O.

There is only one possible way in which any young man can be appointed a midshipman at Annapolis. Each member of Congress is entitled to have one midshipman at Annapolis and one cadet at the Military Academy at West Point. When one is appointed to either the congressman cannot appoint another from his district until that one graduates, or fails in his annual examination.

So the man to consult is your congressman. Write to him, and find out when he will next have the appointment of a midshipman, which is, as a rule, once each four years. He can appoint anyone he pleases, providing the young man lives in his district. Or he can have a competitive examination, and let the winner have the appointment. This examination, however, does not take the place of the examination for admission. Candidates must be over 15 and under 20 years, physically sound, well formed, and of robust constitution. They are examined by the academic board at Annapolis for admission in reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, United States history, world's history, algebra thorough quadratic equations and plane geometry. Deficiency in any one branch will reject, and there is no second trial. You would fail in writing and spelling both. In your question above, the following words were misspelled: corse (for course), persue and accadeny. Your English grammar is deficient, or you would never have written so inelegant a phrase as "What branches he would have to be examined on." You should have written "and in what is he examined for admission," or "and what studies is he required to be proficient for admission," or "and what are the mental qualifications required." Of course, we do not say this to discourage you, and far less in a spirit of ridicule; but it is well to have things pointed out that need instant study and correction. We desire to encourage everyone who has an aspiration to rise in the world.

Kit Carson.

Please give a short sketch of Christopher Carson.—P. C., Dekall Junction, New York.

Christopher Carson was born in Madison county, Ky., in 1809; died at Fort Lynn, Col., 1868. When he was a babe his parents emigrated to Howard county, Mo. At 15, he was apprenticed to a saddler. Two years later, he joined a hunting expedition, thus beginning his life as hunter, trapper, scout and guide. For eight years he was a trapper, and for the next eight he was hunter for the troops at Bent's Fort. He then met Lieut. John C. Fremont, who engaged him as guide in his explorations. He was better known to a larger number of Indian tribes than any other whtie man. In 1853 he drove 6,500 sheep over the mountains to California, and on his return was appointed Indian agent in New Mexico. During the civil war he rendered great service to the government in New Mexico and Colorado, and was brevetted brigadier general. After the war, he resumed his place as Indian agent, which he held until his death.

China's Literature.

Please tell me something about China as a literary nation.—S. B. Harper, Kan.

Questions in this form are too general. Were we to attempt to give an idea of what the Chinese think their highest literature, it would take a column to give any adequate idea—too much space for us; and even then it might not be what you desire. Better inquire specifically for the fact or facts you want, bearing in mind that space is limited, and that we always have more questions than we have room to answer. We are glad to reply to questions, but they must be specific, not general.

Mint Marks.

What do the letters C. C. mean on a half dollar?—E. C., August, Mich.

Every one of our larger coins tells by the mint mark where it was coined. It is on dollars, and quarters, and gold coin, as well as on half dollars. If a coin has C. C. under the wreath on the eagle, on the reverse side of the coin, it means it was minted at Carson City. If it has O, it means New Orleans; if F, it means San Francisco, and if it has no mint mark, that means it was made at the Philadelphia mint.

The Red Tag.

Please let me know when my subscription expired to The Blade.—A. L., Farwell, Mich.

The little red tag pasted on your paper, containing your name, gives the date of expiration. If it reads as follows.

John Smith, 11jan04.

it means your subscription expired with January 11, 1904.

Five Sundays in February.

Please tell me how often February has five Sundays? Also, when was the last time it had five?—J. D. F., Henslee, Tenn.

This only occurs in a leap year in which the month comes in on Sunday. Then the 1st, 8th, 15th, 22d and 29th are Sundays. It occurs three times in a century. In the last century it occurred in 1824, 1852 and 1880. In the present century it will occur in 1920, 1948 and 1976.

Why No Answers.

We are getting a large number of interesting queries which we can not answer because the real name of the writer is not given. Read the rules above, and make your letters comply with them, if you expect answers.

We have a letter signed only Subscriber, Hartford, W. Va., addressed to "Legal Column, Toledo Blade." We have no legal column; we do not answer questions of law, for reasons we have explained time and again. Will our Hartford subscribers please bring this to the attention of their friends? The writer evidently is not a subscriber, but knows of the paper.

Miscellaneous.

J. A. M., Mt. Vernon, Mo.: No.

E. B. M., Signal, O.: We are unable to say.

M. S., Aaronsburg, Pa.: We never saw the poem.

W. P., Sioux Falls, S. D.: We have nothing of any person of that name.

J. S. C., Greensboro, N. C.: Those are simply assertions, without any definite proofs.

A. L. H., Compher, O.: Ask a justice of the peace or a lawyer to let you read the game laws.

X., Sodus, Mich.: Better consult the librarian of the city library, Detroit, on that subject.

F. W. S., Mt. Pleasant, Mich.: Yes, unless your state has a law requiring a peddler's license. Ask a lawyer.

O. T., Salina, Kan.: There is no toll charged foot passengers over either the Brooklyn or the new Williamsburg bridges.

S. M. F., Butler, Ind.: Any place near a railroad in any of the states named would do. We can not recommend any particular location.

A. S. B., Allen, S. D.: A glass or other hollow sphere weighs less with the air exhausted than with it full of air. It weighs as much less as the weight of the air.

I. F. K., Monett, Mo.: Your question is too vague. If you will tell what you want to know about the earth other than you can find in any school geography, we shall be pleased to answer.

V. M., Seneca, N. Y.: We are sorry to say we know nothing whatever of Rice's estate. He was murdered by his own attorney, Patrick, who is now under sentence of death for the crime.

C. A. S., Hixton, Wis.: Your question covers too much ground. It would amount to an historical account of our patriotic songs. Specify the one you want, and we will try to answer.

C. H. K., Mansfield, O.: The questioner asked the parsing of certain words in a sentence he gave. We told him just what he asked. We know the quotation was incorrect, but it is so printed in the grammar he used, as the writer happens to know.

H. C. C., Marksboro, N. C.: The writer has nothing to do with the editorial columns of the paper, and never noted the article. Clover seed is sold in 2½ bushel bags, and the quotations printed in our market columns each week are for one bushel, not for a bag.

E. H., Richelieu, Ky., and W. D. K., Tylersville, Pa.: The rules above state that no arithmetical questions can be answered. We never made but one exception to this, and that was in the controversy over Ann's age; and one reason for that exception was given at the time.

Six Books For The Sick.

What I Learned After 30 Years.

Which shall I send?
Book 1 on Dyspepsia.
Book 2 on the Heart.
Book 3 on the Kidneys.
Book 4 for Women.
Book 5 for Men (sealed)
Book 6 on Rheumatism

No money is wanted.

Simply select the book you need.

It is my experience as a specialist of 30 years. In the book I tell how at last I found a way to reach difficult, deep-seated diseases. Thirty years of earnest, ardent toil in hospitals and at bedsides, made it possible for me to write these books.

The books tell how I perfected my prescription—Dr. Shoop's Restorative. How by scientific experiments I traced out the causes that bring on chronic diseases.

I found invariably that where there was a weakness, the inside nerves were weak.

Where there was a lack of vitality, that the vital nerves lacked power.

Where weak organs were found, I always found weak nerves.

Not the nerves commonly thought of, but the vital organs' nerves. The inside—the invisible nerves.

This was a revelation.

Then my real success began.

Then I combined ingredients that would strengthen—that would vitalize these nerves.

That prescription I called a restorative. It is known the world over now as Dr. Shoop's Restorative. After that I did not fail to cure one in each hundred. In the extremely difficult cases, my failures for five years were only one in each forty treated. I found cancer incurable. Cancer is for surgery, not medicine.

Then how to get this prescription to the sick ones everywhere was my thought.

I must announce it in the public press. But, thought I, will they realize the real truth of my discovery—the real power of Dr. Shoop's Restorative? Then a way came to me—like an inspiration.

"I will offer it to the sick on trial," said I. "Then they will know I am sincere."

I wrote a reliable druggist in each city and village in America.

I got their agreement to co-operate with me.

Now by any sick one
Dr. Shoop's Restorative
Can be taken at my risk.

For a full month I will let you use it entirely at my risk. Send no money. Just write me for the book you need. When I send it I will tell you of a druggist near you who will permit the month's trial. Take the Restorative a month. Then decide. If you say to the druggist, "It did not help me," that will relieve you of any expense whatever. He will bill the cost to me.

This is my way of clearing your mind of all doubt as to what Dr. Shoop's Restorative can do. No matter how prejudiced, you cannot dispute this absolute security I offer. You cannot resist an offer like this if you are at all sick. If you have a weakness, write me. If you can't do things like you used to do them, tell me about it. Write in confidence. As a physician I will tell you a way to help.

Get my book now—today.

Address Dr. Shoop, Box 7528, Racine, Wis.

Mild cases, not chronic are often cured by one or two bottles. At druggists.

CHRISTMAS TREE TRADE

What Maine Farmers Are Now Preparing for Holiday Market.

This is the season when the farmers of certain parts of Maine are busy gathering Christmas trees for shipment to the big cities, in order to get the wherewithal to buy Christmas presents and add something to their bank deposits. From small beginnings the trade in Maine Christmas trees has grown to be an industry of considerable importance and of great profit to a class of people who, especially at the bleak November season, "need the money."

Until six or seven years ago the balsam fir of the cold northern woods was considered the most worthless tree that ever grew. It was as prolific as any weed that grows, and as hardy as a burdock. It grew on land that would raise no other crop; no animal or worm or bug would eat of its foliage, and when it was once started in a thicket no other tree or shrub had any chance to come in and supplant it. The wood was valueless for timber and made poor fuel. Except for some rank smelling, viscid balsam, which formed in blisters below the bark, and which was used as a remedy for coughs and colds, the fir was wholly outside the pale of utility. Yet it was one of the prettiest and most thrifty trees that grew, having a dense foliage of living green and a shape as tapering and symmetrical as a church spire.

Seven years ago a party of hunters, returning in a steam yacht from a caribou hunt in Newfoundland, called at Sargentville, on the eastern shore of Penobscot bay, and took a ride inland to visit some abandoned copper and lead mines in Bluehill. The leaves had fallen from the deciduous trees, causing the dark evergreens to stand out in bold relief against the neutral background of browns and grays. Stretching back from the roadside and sweeping over hill and valley were tens of thousands of young firs in the full vigor of rampant growth. The owner of the yacht looked at them carefully and came to the conclusion that they would make ideal Christmas trees—much better than the scrubby, irregular pines that were then in use.

He hired some men and horses and loaded the deck of the yacht with about 500 trees, and took them to Boston as a speculation. When the cargo of trees was taken up in front of Faneuil hall the marketmen fell over one another in their haste to get Christmas firs. The entire lot was sold out at an enormous profit and the marketmen clamored for more. The next year 50,000 trees were taken to Boston from the shores of Hancock county, chiefly from Castine, Orland and Bluehill. The third season trees were sent to New York and sold like hot cakes there. At the end of four years the average shipment of Maine firs was 700,000 trees a year. Last season more than 1,500,000 were sent away. This season's shipments will probably reach 1,750,000.

Although the cutting, trimming, binding and shipment of Christmas trees is a laborious task, the Maine farmers make the occasion an autumnal holiday, many of them taking their families to the edge of the forest and eating their midday meal around the blazing fire that roars and sparkles in the midst of their labors. One man cuts the sizeable trees close to the ground. A boy or a strong girl cuts away with a sharp hatchet a few limbs from the trunks. A woman and a boy or two women put the trees into bundles of twelve, and tie them firmly together with strong cords, and a large boy or a man drives the team of horses, harnessed to a hayrick, which hauls the load to the wharf or railroad station. Meantime the smaller children of the family roam through the woods, pulling the trailing creepers of ground pine from among the fallen leaves, pickng great bunches of glossy wintergreen from the shadows of overhanging pines and gathering in the shining red fruit of the wild raisin shrub, all of which will be placed carefully in boxes and sent away to form wreaths and streamers for church decoration and for the adornment of stately city homes where Christmas is observed with pomp and splendor.

The prices received by the farmers for the Christmas greens, though small for individual trees, amounts to a considerable sum, when the large quantity sold is taken into consideration. For small trees, five to six feet tall, such as would be used by people in moderate circumstances, five cents is the usual price, f. o. b. in Maine. tree from six to ten feet tall will bring from 10 to 15 cents, according to its symmetry. The five-cent trees are sold for 25 cents in the city markets, while the 15-cent tree often brings $1 or more, so the jobbers and retailers make handsome profits.—New York Tribune.

FAMILY RECORD BIBLES

Not Sold to Same Extent as Formerly, but Still in Demand.

"Do we still sell the old-fashioned family Bible, with pages in it for the record of births, deaths and marriages? Oh, yes," said the bookseller, "but not so many of them as we once did.

"There are more Bibles sold now, taking them all together, than ever before, and the Bible is issued now in an almost endless variety of forms and styles; but the demand for it in this particular form is now, I should say, not more than one-third what it once was.

"Still, we keep these record Bibles today in a dozen styles, ranging in price from $5 to $20. The blank record pages, these often illuminated, are bound in between the two Testaments.

"In some of these Bibles there is a blank presentation page upon which may be written the name of the person to whom the Bible is presented, with the name of the giver; and in some of them is contained a blank marriage certificate; and in some there are bound in with the pages for the record of births, deaths and marriages, pages for the record of temperance pledges.

"These Bibles are more likely to be bought nowadays by country people, and it might be by people of the German race and by Irish Protestants; all likely to be substantial people of comfortable means; conservative people who cling still to time-honored customs.

"So, while the old-time family record Bible, with pages for the record of births, deaths and marriages, has gone somewhat out of fashion, and is not sold to the extent to which it once was, yet it is still sold, and the demand for it is still considerable."—New York Sun.

London's Whistles.

A boy was charged at a London police court the other day with blowing a whistle in such a way as to cause three policemen to come toward him. The fact that such a thing is possible suggests the questions: How do the police distinguish between a cab whistle and a police whistle? What is there to prevent any one from blowing a whistle in such a way as to call a policeman? A representative of the Daily Graphic who put these questions to a high official of the city police yesterday learned that in the matter of attending to whistles—as with his many other duties—the policeman uses his discretion. Any shrill whistle will attract a policeman, but such a whistle blown at night outside a restaurant or any place where people congregate and cabs are wanted would not bring a policeman to the whistler. The same whistle blown in precisely the same way in the middle of the city at midday would bring a policeman on the scene at once.—London Graphic.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

A double American Beauty rose is something unusual, but George M. Kellogg has accomplished it at his hot houses at Pleasant Hill, Mo. Where but one rose should be on the stem there are two, and those who have seen the new production have named it the Siamese twins.—Kansas City Journal.

The electric railway up Mount Vesuvius, from Resina to the foot of the cone, to connect with the old Funicular railway to the crater, has been completed. The starting point of the new railway is Pugliano, which, except for a very small stretch not yet completed, is in itself connected with Naples by electric trams; so that when this short extension is finished it will be possible to travel by electric power from the heart of Naples to the summit of Vesuvius.—London Engineer.

Francis J. McCarthy, a 15-year-old boy of San Francisco, has invented a system of wireless telephoning, which he has already tested and found practicable for sending messages four miles. He first began developing a wireless telephone in his own house, and then he constructed a 30-foot pole on the top of his home and by the aid of another pole four miles away he set up communication. His apparatus consisted of tin pans on the poles and a wire down to a receiving station on the house porch.—Chicago Tribune.

The Sunday School

A FATHER AND THREE SONS

The International Sunday-School Lesson for December 27, is a Review. Ps. 103.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

A bit of family history should serve as a satisfactory review of the quarter's Sunday school lessons, for they all have to do with David and his family. In an investigation of this particular family of long ago there are to be found the extremes that most family histories reveal. A certain conspicuous American family illustrates this. One member of the family is perhaps the most unselfish and useful philanthropist in the land; another is a silly follower of fashion, wedded to a foreign rake; another is a high-grade business man, of brains and integrity, and, shortly removed from these immensely wealthy members of the family, are others who are barely above want.

David was a king in character before he ever wore a crown. He was a God-made man, taken from the sheep-fold to prepare himself for a throne. The romance of his youth and early manhood is not to be retold here; it bore fruit, however, in a nobility of nature which seems strangely at variance with the nature of certain of his sons. David was father of a foolish fop, of an ingrate rebel, of an incestuous brute and of the wisest man that ever lived. "Heredity" is not the master key to human nature.

At Bed Rock.

To understand David, or these lessons, it is necessary to recall the principle which underlay all of his life. This was his fundamental religiousness. From the days when as a lad he read God's providence in the grass of the Bethlehem fields, or in the steadfast hills, or in the commonplace life of a Judean shepherd lad, until in old age he passed away praying God's favor upon the son who succeeded him, he was a devout believer in Jehovah. All his life was lived with respect to Jehovah. His relation to the Most High was ever the first thought in his mind.

Religion meant more to him than anything else. He might suffer lapses from faithfulness, but he never lost the deep religious impulse which was the secret of his greatness. This religious impulse revealed itself in the bringing up of the ark to Jerusalem, which was the subject of the first lesson of the quarter.

A Man and God.

The sublimest moment of life is when a soul bares itself to its Creator; when it enters into that sacred chamber of communion in which it is alone with God. One-third of all the Sunday school lessons for the last three months have dealt with David's personal relations with Jehovah. At first blush this might seem to be an undue proportion to devote to purely spiritual experience. Yet who does not know that these are most important of all? The unseen, unsuspected thoughts of the heart are the determining events in every man's destiny; circumstances and history are but creatures of the spiritual experiences of men.

The covenant that God made with David concerning his family and the scepter of Israel and the building of the temple, was the second of the quarter's lessons — a purely spiritual experience. It stands for the eternal earth, never over emphasized, that the individual may enter into direct relations with the Infinite; that God will covenant with the single soul, even as he covenanted with Abraham and Moses. Akin to this lesson was the later one, "David's trust in God," wherein he poured forth his confidence in Jehovah under the figure of the shepherd and the sheep.

A Blot on the Family Record.

The blackest deed in ancient Israel's history—blackest because done by the noblest of its kings and heroes—was the sin of David with Bathsheba. What a fall was there! No good man can feel himself beyond the power of temptation, since the great David, the man after God's own heart, sank to the level of murder and adultery. Out of this sin sprang two of the king—his deep spiritual experiences of the king—his confession and his joy over forgiveness (lessons 3 and 4). His picture of the gnawing, torturing presence, of a consciousness of guilt has been made the vehicle of the penitence of millions of contrite hearts. The hideousness of self-conscious sin, although all the masters of literature have attempted to portray it, has never been set down so graphically and vividly as in the 51st psalm.

Equally powerful is the contrite king's expression of joy over his forgiveness as recited in the 32nd psalm, followed by penitence and pardon, and in him was exemplified the profound truth, highest evidence of the mercy of God—that there is hope for the man who has sinned, and that God has made a way of escape for all who will follow it from the blight and suffering of sin.

A Parent's Shortcomings.

If this is to be a study in a family too much space must not be devoted to David. We cannot pass on to the sons, though, without noting the father's responsibility for their shortcomings. He was a loving, but a too-indulgent parent. He did not use the rod enough either for punishment or for correction. State affairs were allowed to crowd out his duty to his offspring, even as today many a man allows himself to be "too busy" to take a close interest in his children, and then wonders why his sons go to the dogs.

The old king should have kept a tighter rein upon all his children. If he had done so, Absalom and Adonijah would never have been able to foment rebellions as they did. He was slack, too, in the matter of Amnon, whose bestial crime should have been punished as the law of Moses directed. His derilection in this respect gave Absalom an excuse for a cowardly murder. A parent cannot escape responsibility for his children if he has failed in his duty to them.

Then the big heart of David led him into another blunder; he loved his son Absalom, not too well, but unwisely. He was blind to his faults; he forgave when he should have punished; he allowed unrestrained liberty when he should have given firm direction; he puts his affection for his wayward boy above his duty to the state. In this he was at fault. Yet his persisting father's love is the best Old Testament illustration of the way God loves his wayward children in spite of their waywardness.

Two Proud Princes.

This dashing, selfish, handsome Prince Absalom was a strange mixture of qualities. He was a fop, a dissembler, a traitor and an ingrate. The vices that idleness breeds were all there to be found in him. His filial love and duty seem to have been absent quantities. Under the very eyes of the king, he stole the hearts of Israel, fomented and led a rebellion and drove his aged father into exile. But his plot eventually failed, and he died as the fool dieth. Still the king's heart broke over this fool, as many another noble heart since has been broken by a worthless character.

Absalom had a younger brother, Adonijah, who in time tried the former's tactics to secure the kingdom for himself. His rebellion was likewise a formidable one, but David thwarted it by crowning young Solomon king. He defeated the bad by emphasizing the good.

The Wisest Man in the World.

Here enters Solomon, the best of the king's sons, and the one appointed to carry on the royal succession and to build the temple. Solomon entered upon his reign in a commendable spirit—reverent, teachable, patriotic. He coveted earnestly the best gifts, and when given his choice by God he chose an understanding heart. The unselfishness of this choice of wisdom so pleased Jehovah that he granted Solomon all that he wished, and added thereto the other gifts which he might have sought but did not. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you."

To Solomon fell the privilege of fulfilling his father's cherished design of the building of a great temple to Jehovah. In all the world there was no such triumph of architecture as this, and it might well be called the crowning achievement of David's family—with two exceptions.

David did a greater work than design and prepare for the temple. The songs that he wrote out of his heart are a better heritage to the race than the temple beautiful. The latter was in ruins centuries ago, but the psalms of David were never more alive than they are today in human hearts.

Greater even than as author of these songs was David's place as ancestor of Jesus. This is the pre-eminent glory that attaches to his name. He was one of the agencies through which God sent into the world his only begotten son. After all, the best that most men do is to serve as links in the chain of God's providences.

Active Workers Wanted
to push the sale of a new Children's Magazine. Generous commission to earnest workers.
Holiday Publishing Co. 27 E. 22nd Street, New York.

SENT FREE BATH CABINET
IT IS YOURS FOR THE ASKING
without one cent of cost. This is NO 30 DAYS TRIAL scheme. It is YOURS TO KEEP FOREVER and we under no circumstances ASK FOR OR ACCEPT any money for it, either now or in the future. Simply send us your name and address and we will send you a Cabinet. WE GUARANTEE TO BE THE BEST BATH CABINET MADE. One trial will prove to you its superiority over all others. You never again will be without a Bath Cabinet in the house. It cures:
NERVOUSNESS, LIVER, KIDNEY, URINARY or BLADDER DISEASES.
IT WILL CURE Rheumatism, Nervous Debility, Paralysis, Locomotor Ataxia, Varicocele, Piles, Spermatorrhoea, Blood Poison. ALL these can be driven out of the human system by the use of the Cabinet. We give it away FREE to all who can be cured by it. After you are cured your friends will want one and from these sales we will make our profit. BE A STRONG, VIGOROUS MAN, with perfect health, feeling good ALL the time. Write us in confidence, telling all about your case.
WOMAN Piles, Constipation, Female Weakness, Bearing-Down Pains, Painful Monthlies, all female ills yield like magic to this Great Curative Agent. "Your Cabinet quickly cured me of Piles and Female Weakness from which I suffered in silent misery many years." Mrs. G. B. DATEAUX.
Wisconsin Medical Bath Cabinet Co., Room 917 Alhambra Bldg., Milwaukee, Wis.

A BOY OF LONG AGO.

The International Sunday School Lesson for January 3, is "The Boyhood of Jesus." Luke 2:40-52.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

The Christmas Sunday school lesson considered the Babe of Bethlehem; this first lesson of the New Year treats of the Boy of Nazareth. For six months the International Series will deal with the life and words of Jesus, but only this once does he appear as a child.

The story is of undying interest; art, literature, philosophy and theology have all devoted their best powers to depicting and interpreting it. The record of this childhood is brief, just a few master touches here and there—an angel visitor to a maiden at Nazareth; two weary pilgrims reaching Bethlehem too late to find lodging; the Babe born in the home of the gentle beasts; a strange, luminous appearance to some shepherds, and a new song by a heavenly chorus; the visit to the temple, when the Babe was little more than a month old; the visit of a little company of strange easterners, led by a star, and the gifts they brought; the flight down into Egypt to escape Herod's bloodthirstiness; the return in a short time to Nazareth, the former home of Mary and Joseph; the growth of the Boy in wisdom and stature; the visit to the holy city when he was 12 years old; the 18 years that followed in the carpenter's home and at the carpenter's bench, and then the public appearance which first brings this wonderful character into the clear view of history. One reason for the meagerness of detail in this most important life story, one has suggested, is that it is less the biography of Jesus of Nazareth than the history of the world's Saviour.

The Touch That Turns.

Homes are mightier than universities. The touch of a child's earliest environments has more to do with determining the life-long trend of its character than any later influence. This boy, whose mission was to make plain and simple the way back to the divine Father's love for all the wondering sons of men, spent most of his life in a workingman's home in a little village. The influences that surrounded him were the influences of a humble, pious home, glorified by the mother-love of the world's best woman.

Mary was the Boy's teacher and friend. From her lips he learned life's first lessons. She it was who told him the hero tales of Israel's history, firing his young heart with patriotism that never lost its glow. His evening lullaby was one of the psalms. Then the serene sweetness of Mary's own presence was a constant formative influence. Only Mary could have been the mother of this wonderful Child. If it is a high privilege and responsibility, and the greatest of joys to rear up any child, how much greater was the privilege and responsibility and joy of Mary, who knew the secret of this wonderful Boy's birth?

A Home in a Village.

Pity the child who knows only the streets of a city for his playground and the harsh, unsympathetic outlines of brick and stone as the only background for his early memories. The country, or better yet the small village is the place for a boy to gain the foundation stores of health and knowledge and pleasure upon which he can best build in the years to come. Not to have grown up familiar with the life of field and forest and farmyard; not to have shared the sports and games of other boys; not to have watched the sparks fly from the village forge or to have listened on the edge of the benign company of village fathers as they talked over the affairs of state and church—these are deprivations, indeed.

The boy Jesus was not deprived of them. He lived the active, pleasure-filled life of the normal vigorous boy. The fables about his infant prowess are foolish on their face—his working miracles to confound his boyish enemies, his breathing life into birds of clay, and all such like. Such a prodigy and prig would never grow in favor with God or man. The life of the child Jesus was an average life; thus did he purchase perfect knowledge of the lot of every man.

Schooled in Religion.

He probably went to school at six years, the Old Testament being his only text book. He had a child's tasks to do and errands to run, for he was the oldest child in a growing family. A favorite playground was his father's carpenter shop, and long before he was called upon to take up the trade for himself he knew the names of all the tools and the way to handle them.

At every turn the touch of religion was upon his life. The sacred law was upon the door posts of his simple home. His father's phylacteries reminded him of the awful home. The great urn of water by the door, to which he had to turn so often in the course of a day for cleansing, according to the law, was but one of the daily accessories of his life which reminded him of the pervasiveness of his faith. Feast days and fast days, synagogue services and the yearly pilgrimages of the elders to Jerusalem, all combined to impress upon his sensitive spirit the primary obligations of religion. It is not unlikely that a copy of the Old Testament existed in his home; certainly the familiarity with its pages which he later manifested showed early acquaintanceship therewith. The questions which he asked the doctors in the temple were not the impulses of a moment. Every child is naturally religous; he peculiarly so.

Glimpses of the Big World.

Thus sequestered amid religious influences, the boy Jesus was yet also in touch with the wide world's active life. Nazareth was near the great highways of commerce, and the busiest section of Palestine. Here the great caravans of commerce passed. Merchants, soldiers, travelers touched the little town, affecting its character greatly. So its people were practically not given to physiological subtleties or rabbinical hair-splitting, as were those of Judea. Therefore the sneer that the latter had for anything that came out of Nazareth.

The strong sanity of the pater conduct of Jesus, when his clear, vigorous and incisive views went straight to the center of every problem, may be associated with this phase of his boyhood. Jesus was not a son of the schools, but a man of the world. He got much of his wisdom from that tried old schoolmaster, experience. There is nothing like contact with actual life for keeping a man free from extravagances, and sound in judgment. Nazareth helped make Jesus a world citizen. He probably spoke at least three languages—Hebrew, Greek and Arabic, the last being the common speech of the country.

Some Astonished Divines.

A boy's first flight into the big world is a memorable experience. When he was 12, Jesus, having become "a son of the law," thenceforth entitled to take his place in the home and the synagogue with the men, was taken up to Jerusalem to the Passover feast. For any country boy to go to the city is exciting, but for a Jewish boy, with the consciousness and imagination of this one, to go up to the city of his ancestor David, the city of the great temple, the city that was the center of Jewish religion, history and romance, was an event indeed. The impression of that first vision of the city with its temple never faded from the memory of Jesus. Did he look forward to that day when he should weep over it?

And such crowds! Sometimes two million Jews came up to this anniversary of the passing over of the homes of the Hebrews by the angel of death on the night when the first-born of Egypt were slain. The thrill of the throng entered deeply into the sensitive soul of the boy from Nazareth. Most of all, though, he was interested in the great temple and its services. How much he wanted to know! Questions thronged his mind that could not be answered at Nazareth, and he waited eagerly for the opportunity to ask questions of the famous doctors of the law gathered here.

When this opportunity came, the boy grew so engrossed in it that he allowed his home company to depart without him. Let it be said here that there is no warrant for the common impression that the boy Jesus was instructing these learned divines. Far from it. He was not "a boy preacher," or a precocious prig. His part was the part of the learner; he was asking questions and answering the queries of the rabbis. How clear was his consciousness of his own supernatural origin and mission we cannot know. Assuredly he had some gleam of it. On their face, however, these questions to the doctors need not have represented more than the accumulated questionings and broodings of a deeply spiritual nature. What were the questions he asked? Had they to do with the promised Messiah? We cannot know, but we may be sure that, whatever their nature, they were asked in a modest, teachable spirit.

Under the Yoke.

Thus the anxious parents found him at last, after a weary search, found the son whom they had missed when well on the road home to Nazareth. Of the astonishment of all who had been listening to the youthful questioner, that of Mary and Joseph was the greatest. There was a note of reproof in the voice of the mother—that mother love which would ever keep its offspring within its own protecting care—as she said, "Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I sought thee sorrowing."

The answer marked a sad hour in Mary's life, that hour which comes to every parent when a child asserts his own individuality. "How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my father's business?" They should have known, but they did not; his duty to his Father transcended his duty to his earthly parents. God's claims come first. For one-half instant we see flashing out the knowledge of his special mission in the world.

Then he returned with them to Nazareth; knowing at least in part, that he was not Jesus, son of Joseph, but Christ, the Messiah, he yet voluntarily took upon his neck the yoke of obedience to his earthly parents, and all the hum-drum sound of a mechanic's life in a little village. "He was subject unto them;" there is a moral grandeur in these words. Conscious of his powers and of his mission, he yet took up the life of an ord'nary young man so naturally that no one thought the fact notable. Great indeed is the greatness that can make himself of no reputation, and be patient through all the times of preparation and waiting. Those 18 silent years which followed at Nazareth, are eloquent with teaching to all whose souls cherish high visions, but whose lot is cast in a lowly place.

The Thompson-Dimick Discord.

The relations between them and the landlady have never been harmonious, and the discord took on an acute form Sunday morning, when Mrs. Thompson forced her way through the door of the rooms occupied by the Dimicks. It was alleged that Mrs. Thompson raised a disturbance and Dimick undertook to control her, but she was too much for him, and after she had nearly torn his shirt off he sent for White to come to his assistance. Mrs. H. O. Hurham, who also has rooms in the house, testified that, hearing the row, she came to the room and saw White holding Mrs. Thompson down on the floor. To her it appeared that White was handling the woman with roughness. She said that White was sitting on Mrs. Thompson.—Portland Oregonian.

"To be successful," he remarked, thoughtfully, "all we have to do is to make as much of a business of our own business as we do of the things that are none of our business."—Chicago Post.

PERSONAL.

MARRIAGE
Directory FREE TO ALL. Pay when married. New plan. Send no money for particulars. SELECT CLUB, Dept. 546, Tekonsha, Mich.

YOUNG WIDOW, age 28, with $10,000; lady, 30, $35,000; lady, 25, $15,000; blonde, 18, cash and beautiful farm. I see honorable husbands for these. Confidential. Address Mrs. W., 697 Fulton St., Chicago, Ill.

PATENTS.

Patents "Facts Inventors Should Know Before Applying for Patent"—sent on request. A. S. PATTISON, 628 F Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

PATENTS that PROTECT 72-p. Book Mailed Free
R. S. & A. B. LACEY, Patent Att'ys, Washington, D. C.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES.

PATENT SECURED or Fee returned. Free opinion as to patentability. Send for Guide Book and What to Invent, finest publications issued for free distribution. Patents secured by us advertised free in Patent Record. Sample Free. Evans, Wilkens & Co., 634 F St., Washington, D. C.

WANTED—AGENTS.

WANTED—Agents to sell Cylinder and Lubricating Oils. Central Refining Co., Cleveland, O.

1427 Silk Fringe Cards, Love, Transparent, Escort & Acquaintance Cards, New Puzzles, New Games, Premium Articles, &c. Finest Sample Book of Visiting & Hidden Name Cards, Biggest Catalogue. Send 2c. stamp for all. OHIO CARD CO., CADIZ, OHIO. CARDS

$80 A MONTH SALARY And all expenses to men with rig to introduce our Guaranteed Poultry Remedies. Year's contract. Bank reference furnished. G. R. Bigler Co., X. 305, Springfield, Ill.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LADIES To do piecework at their homes. We furnish all material and pay from $7 to $12 weekly. Experience unnecessary. Send stamped envelope to Royal Co., Desk 2, 34 Monroe St., Chicago, Ill.

BRASS BAND
Instruments, Drums, Uniforms. Lyon & Healy "Own-Make" Instruments are preferred by Thomas Orchestra, Banda Rossa, Mascagni, etc. Lowest prices. Big Catalog; 1000 illustrations; mailed free; it gives instructions for amateur bands. LYON & HEALY, 72 Adams St., Chicago

MEDICAL.

LADIES Our Monthly Regulating Tablets never fail. Box FREE. N FRIAR MED CO. Buffalo, N.Y.

LADIES When in need use our Never Failing Monthly Remedy; send for free trial. Olive Drug Co, 33 T Lewis blk, Buffalo

Ladies: Our harmless Remedy relieves without fail delayed or suppressed menstruation. For free trial address Paris Chemical Co., Dept. 3, Milwaukee, Wis.

BED-WETTING CURED Sample free Dr. F. E. May, Box 157, Bloomington, Ill.

WOMEN! FREE INFORMATION to any lady of a never failing, harmless monthly remedy. A simple home treatment. Mrs. C. N. Morton, Sta. B, Buffalo, N. Y.

I CURE FITS
When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office.
Prof. W.H.PEEKE, F.D., 4 Cedar St., N.Y.

Painkiller PERRY DAVIS'
The world-known household remedy for cuts, burns, bruises—coughs, colds, sore throat.

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1903.

Largest and Best Weekly Published and Largest Circulation.

TOLEDO BLADE CO.............Publishers
ROBINSON LOCKE.............Editor

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wideawake and thinking men. Its editorial page is one of the strongest and most thoughtful in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

TERMS—POSTAGE PAID:
Single copy, weekly, one year, $1.00; six months, 60 cents; three months, 30 cents. Write for club terms.
SPECIMEN COPIES sent, postpaid, free to any address. Send for one, and at the same time give us the address of a dozen or so of your friends. Address,
THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

Entered at the postoffice at Toledo as second-class mail matter.

CIRCULATION LAST WEEK - 161,000

LACE CURTAINS FOR BLADE SUBSCRIBERS

Of Special Interest to Subscribers Whose Time Expires in January.

About a year ago we contracted with the largest manufacturer of lace curtains in the United States, to make a line of curtains to give as premiums for small clubs of subscribers to the Weekly Blade. We gave away during the season nearly 10,000 pairs, and the mills are now working on a contract of more than 20,000 pairs for our use during the present subscription season. Each curtain is 29 inches wide by 2½ yards long, and two curtains (or one pair) are sent postpaid by mail to each person awarded on terms stated below.

These curtains may be described as Number 2961. We have them all made the exact same pattern, in order that those who desire to obtain additional pairs may have them match their first award.

How to Obtain the Premium.

On the first day of each month we shall mail notice to every subscriber whose time expires during that month, giving choice of some half dozen or more propositions for renewal. All who send us a club of ten or more subscribers according to Proposition No. 3, will receive a pair of these curtains postpaid by mail. By January 1st the many thousand subscribers expiring during January should have our propositions. Each and every one should renew under one of the propositions, and at least 1,000 of the number should send us a club, for which we are prepared to meet the award with 1,000 pairs of curtains. You will notice that just now we make this offer to January subscribers only, and thirty days later the February people will have their turn, and so on in order of expiration, giving us orders with such regularity that we may be prepared to meet them promptly.

We shall give all an opportunity during their expiration month. Should any January subscriber fail, for any reason, to get the proposition by January third, they will please write us for a duplicate. And also please remember that unless one of the propositions be accepted before February 1st, you will never have the opportunity again, because beginning that date we deal with February subscribers only. We look for a renewal of every January name, and an equal number of new ones.

DEMOCRATIC SENATORS AND THE CANAL TREATY

Mr. Bailey, of Texas, the other day informed the senate that the Democratic members of that body have agreed in caucus that, whenever two-thirds of them agree on the course to be pursued on any measure, the Democratic senators will vote solidly for it or against it, as the case may be.

Why the statement was not made by Gorman, the recognized leader of the Democrats on the senate floor, we are not informed. Perhaps Bailey anticipated his Maryland colleague, to secure a little prestige. Such an act would be eminently in keeping with the Bailey ideal.

The only point on which Mr. Bailey is weak is the practical impossibility of getting two-thirds of the Democratic senators to agree to anything. Take the canal treaty with the republic of Panama, for instance, which is soon to be sent to them for ratification. Gorman is trying to make the Panama affair a political issue for the Presidential campaign. Consequently he will oppose the treaty—for if it be ratified the issue will be burnt powder. But can two-thirds of the Democratic senators be prevailed upon to oppose it? They are all from the south—except Teller, we believe. The south demands the canal. Especially is this demand insistent from the Gulf states and those along the Mississippi. The mere statement of facts shows the impossibility of holding the minority of the senate in line against the treaty.

HOAR'S SPEECH ON COLOMBIA

Senator Hoar's speech in the senate arraigning the President's Panama policy, and in effect charging him with inciting the revolution on the isthmus, created the most lively interest at the Colombian legation at Washington. Copies of the Record containing it will be forwarded to Bogota at once, where it will be translated into Spanish and given a wide circulation among the people of Colombia.

The effect will be to make them clamorous for war, and certain that the United States government will not dare to resist their advance upon Panama. It will have precisely the effect that the speeches of Hoar and other anti-imperialists had upon the Filipinos. The masses of the Colombians are no more intelligent than are the Filipinos, and Hoar's speech will prove a direct incitement to war.

YOU MAKE MONEY BY TAKING THE BLADE

We frequently receive letters from appreciative subscribers who say that they find The Blade of such practical benefit that they would not willingly be without it; and often the remark is made that information obtained from its columns has enabled them to save more money, in one way or another, than the subscription price many times over.

This is true of every subscriber. For instance, suppose you like to read, and buy a good story now and then. In the past year, we have printed several serials, all of which are now published in book form, at $1.50 each. You have had $6 worth of these, besides the many other good things in The Blade, and all for very much less cost than six dollars.

But the feature of The Blade in which the editor secretly prides himself the most is the news of the world. A man who takes no paper but the Weekly Blade, and who reads, week by week, all the news given in its columns, is as well posted on the news of real value, occurring all over the world, as the city man who skims over two or three daily papers every day. Blade readers are in touch with the events which go to make up the history of the world. If they take time to read, they can not help being well posted. And we aim, in the editorial columns each week, to discuss all topics of importance, that their value may be impressed on the reader's mind. For instance, the Supreme court has before it the Northern Securities case. Elsewhere on this page is an editorial article giving the history of the Northern Securities case, and pointing out the legal question involved, which that court must decide in one of the only two possible ways.

Read over the paper carefully, and ask yuorself if you can afford to be without so excellent a weekly journal. The price is nominal, considering its value. It is worth to any one vastly more than the subscription price. Don't you agree with us? Write to us: be friendly; tell us what you think of The Blade, and give us your ideas for its betterment, if you have any.

NORTHERN SECURITIES CASE.

The Supreme court of the United States is now listening to the arguments in one of the most important cases brought before it in a number of years—the suit brought by the Attorney General on the part of the government against the Northern Securities company. It is brought under the anti-trust law, and the facts, stated briefly, are:

A few years ago, Mr. J. J. Hill, of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific railways, began to build up a trade with Asia for products of the United States, notably cotton and steel and their manufactures. To do this, large steamships were built, and a steamer line started across the Pacific. In order to better reach the sources of these exports, the two railways mentioned obtained possession of the Chicago & Burlington railway. The purchase of this great system affected the transcontinental business of the Union Pacific, and Mr. Harriman demanded an interest interest in the Burlington. This was refused. Then Harriman and his "crowd" determined to buy a controlling interest in the Northern Pacific. A tremendous contest followed on the floor of the New York stock exchange, in May, 1901, the Hill crowd endeavoring to retain control, the Harriman forces to wrest it from them. The stock was cornered, and sales were made as high as $1,000 a share. The Hill people retained control, but it was plain that something had to be done to prevent a repetition of the attempt to wrest the Northern Peaific from them.

Hence, in November of that year, a corporation called the Northern Securities company was incorporated under the laws of New Jersey, with $400,000,000 capital, to acquire and hold the stocks and securities of the Northern Pacific and Great Northern railways, and of other corporations. It was a corporation to handle corporations, the idea being to keep ownership of a majority of stock in the hands of Hill and his friends, thus preventing raids on the control of these roads. Harriman was placated, for the Union Pacific, through the Oregon Short Line, held 41 millions of Northern Pacific preferred and 37 millions of the common stock; and when the preferred was retired, it recived 82 millions of Northern Securities stock and nine millions in cash for its Northern Pacific common. Hill was made president of the Northern Securities company, and Harriman was placed on its board of directors.

The Northern Securities company thus owned the majority of the stock of the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific, two conpeting transcontinental lines, and was able to dictate the policy and the traffic rates of both. There was an extinction of competition by a mutual merger of the two roads. Attorney General Knox, proceeding under the anti-trust law of 1890, began suit against the Northern Securities company, it being charged that the virtual consolidation of these two competing roads was "a combination or conspiracy in restraint of trade or commerce among the states, formerly carried on independently and in free competition"—which, if proved would be contrary to the provisions of the anti-trust law.

Proceedings were filed in the United States district court at St. Paul, but were taken up at once to the United States circuit of appeals. The decision was rendered on April 3, last, all four judges uniting in the decision that the Northern Securities company was an illegal corporation and in violation of the anti-trust law. The court enjoined it from acquiring further stock and from exercising any control over the acts of the companies; the two railroad companies were enjoined from permitting their stocks to be voted by the Securities company and from paying any dividends to the Securities company. The latter was permitted to return its stocks to the original holders and go out of business. Upon application to Judge Sanborn, this decree was so modified as to permit the payment of dividends pending an appeal to the supreme court, so that the Securities company has been receiving the dividends earned by the two railroads and has been turning them over to its own stockholders.

The line of argument before the supreme court is interesting. It is admitted that the Northern Securities company owns the stock of the two roads, and has the power to control them. The circuit court declared that the possession of this power is unlawful; but the point is now made that, in preceding decisions, the supreme court has held that it is not the possession of power, but its use to the detriment of the public, that constitutes an offense. The plea is that while the Securities company has the power to control both roads and prevent competition, it has not used that power, and hence has not violated the law. What the court may think of this contention will be revealed in its decision.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO THE BLADE FAMILY!

The Blade most heartily wishes Merry Christmas to every reader.

Relaxation from the work and worry of every-day life for men and women; harmless mirth and gift-given pleasure for the little ones; and for all, young and old, a recognition of the true spirit of the Christmas festival—a spirit of joy and forgiveness, of generosity and of humanity. To keep the outer semblance of the day is one thing; to have in the heart a revival of its spirit and meaning, with its expression in conduct, is quite another. They who experience the latter really keep Christmas.

To all Christians the festival is the high tide of all the observances of the year, for it is in commemoration of the birth of the Redeemer. Yet the festivities at this particular season of the year date much farther back among the ages than the event at Bethlehem, cradled among the Judean hills. It is the period of the winter solstice. The sun, which has for six months been withdrawing to the southward, leaving the northern hemisphere to advancing cold and darkness, here halts, and then starts on his journey northward once more. His turning is a prophecy and sure augury of spring, of the new birth of nature.

So the peoples of antiquity, back even before the dawn of authentic history, celebrated the event. To them the sun was the source of life and light. Among the wild Teutonic tribes the sun-festival was celebrated; the woad-stained savages of Great Britain observed it; and among the Romans it was celebrated by the Saturnalia—the festival of Saturn. So, when Christianity was founded and spread among the people of the Roman empire, the festival of the birth of Jesus was substituted for the heathen orgies of Saturn—the birth of the Sun of Righteousness for the turning of the material sun northward in his unending journey through the heavens. And the world has grown better and wiser for the change.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY'S SEMI-CENTENNIAL

The Republican convention of 1904 will be the semi-centennial of the party. It was organized under that name in 1854. The cause of its organization was the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill by congress, which was a direct move to extend slavery into the territories of the United States, that more slave states might eventually be made, and thus maintain the slave power in the control of the United States senate. Its domination was threatened by the more rapid growth of the Northern states in poulation in wealth and in power.

The cardinal doctrine of the new party, the corner-stone of its structure, was the demand that slavery should not be extended into the territories. At its first national convention in 1856, held in Philadelphia, the resolutions adopted declared that "we deny the authority of congress, of a territorial legislature, of any individual or association of individuals to give legal existence to slavery in any territory of the United States, while the present constitution shall be maintained."

The platform of 1856 was but a reaffirmation of the animating principle which had called the party into organized being two years before. The fullness of time had come to stop the persistent advances of the slave power. The struggle then took on a new phase. The first stand against it was in the Missouri compromise of 1820, by which slavery was to be limited to the territory south of Missouri, and the latter was admitted with slavery legalized within its boundaries. The next compromise in 1850 looked to the extension of slavery beyond the area formerly agreed upon, and the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill in 1854 marked the growing aggressiveness of the slave power. By that bill, the people of those territories were to decide whether they should be admitted as slave or free states.

The organization of the Republican party was the immediate result of this aggression. It failed to elect Fremont in 1856, but four years later it elected Lincoln, and the country was plunged into civil war by the attempt of the slave states to organize an independent confederacy. That attempt went down in defeat at Appomattox, and then, under Republican policies and control, the nation entered upon an era of progress and development such as none other ever saw. But once since then has the Democratic power obtained control of both houses of congress and of the Presidency at the same time, thus giving it full power over the nation. The panic, the business and industrial depression that prevailed from 1893 to 1897 proved the advantages of Republicanism as the guiding spirit of the United States.

There should be an impressive observance of the semi-centennial of this great party of progress. The national convention at Chicago may well take proper note of the occasion, and the members of the party can best commemorate it by electing a Republican President to begin the second half century of that party's history.

THE OHIO DEMOCRATS.

The leaders of the Democratic party of Ohio are getting able to sit up and take notice, thus showing incipient recovery from the paralyzing Republican plurality administered on November 3 last. Mr. John R. McLean has been for many years a resident of Washington city, engaged in the management of the street railway monopoly of the city. He owns a newspaper in Cincinnati, and on this account claims voting rights in Ohio. He is preparing, it is said, to take over the wreck of the Ohio Democratic party, with a view to realizing on the assets.

Tom L. Johnson, mayor of Cleveland, has been the boss of the party for two campaigns. His unfitness can not be questioned. In both he led the party down to humiliating defeat. Mr. McLean thinks that Tom should now retire to the extreme rear and find an unoccupied chair, leaving to himself the task of bossing what is left of the party. But Mr. Johnson does not agree. Rumor had it, a few days ago, that Johnson had gone East to confer with McLean and agree to a combination. This rumor proved to be unfounded. Tom's business in New York was to confer with Democratic leaders, with a view of getting aid in holding on for next year. He covets McLean's place on the Democratic national committee, and he deires to control the delegation to the national convention.

With both these gentlemen desiring the same thing, a battle royal is the necessary consequence. There will soon be something doing in the camp of the Democrats. McLean represents the old guard of the party, Tom Johnson stands for Bryanism and his own peculiar fads. The spectators may be assured of an interesting combat in the arena.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS IN THE BLADE

After a good deal of persuasion, we have succeeded in having the Sunday school lessons prepared a week further in advance. This is because The Blade does not reach several thousand readers on the Pacific coast in time to make the lesson useful to them. Last week's Blade contained the lesson for Sunday, Dec. 19; but it did not reach the points on the coast until Monday or Tuesday. Now this objection will be overcome. Today's Blade contains the lessons for Dec. 26 and January 2, and hereafter the lesson will be that of the second Sunday after the date of the paper.

OUR PANAMA POLICY AND THE MONROE DOCTRINE

A force of United States marines has been sent to that portion of Panama next the Colombian boundary, on the Pacific side, to discover if a Colombian force is attempting invasion at that point, as has been reported. This is in pursuance of the policy of the United States, to prevent any invasion of the new republic. It is virtually under our protectorate; and in any hostile move against it, by Colombia or any other power, the invader must be prepared to reckon with Uncle Sam.

This is a step in advance in our dealings with the republics to the south of us. It is one which logically follows the Monroe Doctrine, as The Blade has frequently pointed out. The great commercial nations of the world were quick to recognize the meaning of our attitude toward Panama, and they promptly recognized the little republic, despite the protests of Colombia. England has not yet done so, but she is perfectly willing, if Panama will assume its proportionate share of the Colombian debt.

The view of European diplomats is that the United States, by standing as guardian over Panama, and being responsible to the world for the good international behavior of the latter, assumes a police role so far as the protection of life and the preservation of order are concerned in South America. And the transatlantic diplomatists say this role properly belongs to the United States. The Monroe Doctrine is not antagonistic to any proper European interests so long as this country while protecting against European aggression, accepts the responsibility of making the South American republics faithfully observe their international obligations. What European cabinets objected to—and justly objected, too—was the protection of these countries in their folly and dishonesty, against the only mode of redressing European wrongs open to a strong nation in dealing with a weak one—that by force.

The course adopted with regard to Panama is viewed in Europe as the beginning of a new policy, and one which is the proper complement of the Monroe Doctrine. It is, that we shall require the South American republics to treat European nations with proper consideration and honesty. With the construction of the Panama canal an American force will be maintained along its line, and a naval force kept in the Caribbean and in the Pacific, for its protection and defense. Because of our overshadowing interest in the isthmus, we can not permit any disturbance of commerce, nor any disregard of international rights under the name of a revolution.

The necessity of preserving the peace and of maintaining the rights of nations in these republics has practically been forced upon the United States by geographical position and by our desire to maintain the Monroe Doctrine in our own defense. We can not hope to successfully assert that no European nation shall interfere by force in those countries unless we at the same time assert that the latter must act fairly and honestly with European countries and with their subjects or citizens. This new attitude makes for progress and civilization. South America is not rich in natural resources. She needs to be civilized, in the modern sense: to take up her share of the progress and development of the world.

THE FRIARS' LANDS.

Governor Taft has at last succeeded in his object—the getting possession of the lands owned by the friars in the Philippines for a fair consideration. The friars first put an extremely high price on them, because the Vatican demanded a share. They proposed getting full value themselves, and the sum demanded by Rome in addition. The long negotiations have ended in their acquisition by the island government at a reasonable figure.

It comes into possession of 403,000 acres, embracing some of the best agricultural land in the islands, for $7,250,000. This is all held by the friars, except a tract near Manila which had previously been sold to a railway company. The problem of getting rid of the friars, because of the antagonism of the natives to them, has been a grave one. It was one of the many problems involved in the necesary separation of church and state under American rule, and its accomplishment is a matter of congratulation.

SECRETARY ROOT EXPOSES FALSEHOODS

The testimony of Secretary Root in the Wood inquiry is a body blow to the general's persecutors, and, coming as it does, fresh on the heels of a mass of conflicting statements, should carry great weight when the Senate acts on the report of the investigating committee.

Secretary Root upsets the contention of the prosecution that General Wood persecuted Major Rathbone. On the contrary, the general merely followed out the orders of his superiors. The witness explained the method of procedure in Cuban courts, tending to show that the basis of the claim that Wood had tampered with the machinery of justice was wholly without warrant.

In the matter of the Jai Alai concession, Secretary Root assumed the entire responsibility. This concession resolves itself into a permit for an addition to the company's buildings, the concession having been granted before General Wood was in charge. The matter was referred to the War department and carefully investigated to see if the permit conflicted with the Foraker amendment, and, acting on the opinion of the department's legal adviser that it did not, witness recommended that the permit be granted. The silver service was accepted, also on recommendation of the secretary of war.

Thus the serious reflection on General Wood's administration resolves itself into smoke and very dirty water. The public has anticipated just this sort of denouement. Rathbone, the chief witness, is a convicted criminal, at large through the magnanimity of Cuba. He should never have been permitted to give vent to his spleen. Senator Hanna is to be commended for his characteristic loyalty, yet even he must feel chagrin that his friendship has been abused to the extent of making it the vehicle for malicious prosecution. In view of Secretary Root's testimony, the senator should take the first opportunity to denounce the imposition that has practiced upon him.

Adam Luckner, of Dubuque, Ind., celebrated his 100th birthday in most excellent health, which he ascribes to the moderate use of liquor and tobacco for 80 years. But he celebrated in the poor house.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK

Russia and Japan.

Tension seems to be growing in the relations between Russia and Japan. The arrival of a Russian fleet off Chemulpo, in Corea, as a demonstration against the proposed opening of Yongam-Pho to the commerce of the world seems to have intensified the feeling of the Japanese against Russia. This was manifested by an extarordinary parliamentary incident when the house of representatives, in response to the Mikado's speech from the throne, voted a reply in which the ministerial measures were declared inadequate to the needs of the situation. As a result, the Mikado dissolved the Diet, and the cabinet has now a freer hand in the negotiations with Russia. At the same time the administration cannot act independently of popular sentiment, and that has been steadily growing restive under the unsatisfactory course of the negotiations. At present the sentiment of the Japanese authorities is said to be in favor of opposing a strong front to Russia, and of insisting upon the demands formulated last summer. As the result of a recent conference of the leading officials, civil and military, the dispatch of troops to Corea is said to be imminent, so that the situation is more serious than it was a short time ago.

Public Land Frauds.

While there have been references in plenty of late to frauds in connection with the public lands and depredations upon public timber, the extent of these abuses is not generally realized. Much space is devoted to the subject in the annual report of the Secretary of the Interior. We learn from figures given there that on June 30, 1903, there were pending in the United States courts 168 civil suits for the recovery of $2,976,238.66, the value of timber alleged to have been taken unlawfully from the public lands, and 310 criminal prosecutions for cutting or removing timber in violation of law. It is the conclusion of the secretary that existing laws relating to the public lands do not, in many instances, provide adequate protection for the interests of the government, and it is urged that remedial legislation be enacted by congress at an early date.

Colombia's Course.

The Colombians are, of course, intensely angry over the failure of their "hold-up" of the United States to get more money for allowing the canal to be built. Instead of this, they lose Panama and get no money at all. The statement is made by the United Columbian committee at Paris that Colombia will first seek through a commission to induce the United States to recognize Colombia's "rights" under the treaty of 1846; second, if the commission fails Colombia will ask for the submission of the question to The Hague arbitration court; third, if its submission to The Hague court be refused, Colombia will go to war and rely on the Latin republics to come to her aid.

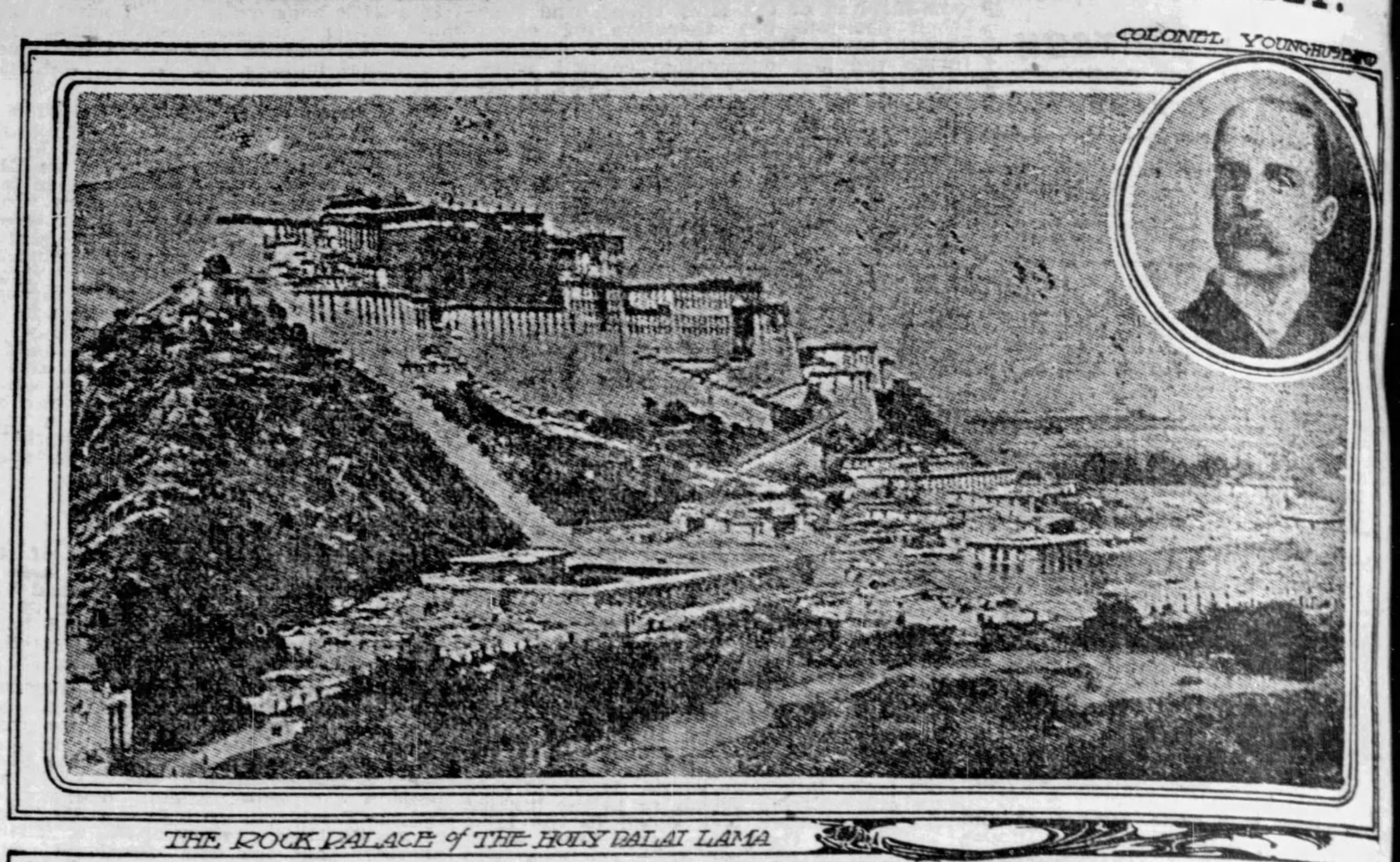
Gen. John C. Black.

Gen. John C. Black, whom President Roosevelt has selected for the vacancy created in the civil service commission by the death of Mr. John R. Proctor, is widely known for his public services. He is a native of Mississippi, where he was born in 1839, but has been a resident of Illinois from an early date, a lawyer by profession and in all respects an estimable gentleman. He entered the Federal army as a private, and rose to a colonelcy, with the rank of brevet brigadier general at its close, being desperately wounded in the service. He was commissioner of pensions during Mr. Cleveland's first term, and member of congress at large from Illinois—1893-95. He is now commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

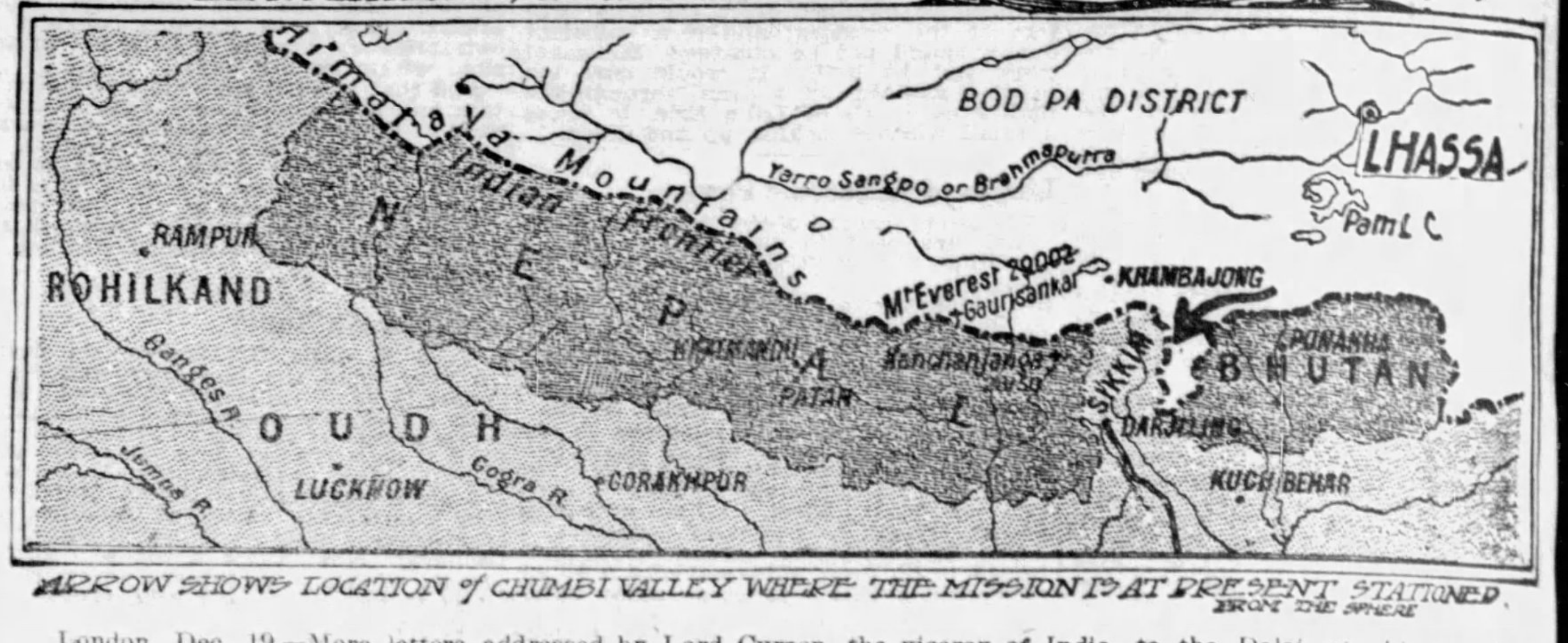
Invitation to Canada.

On the statute books of the United States stand the articles of confederation, adopted in 1777. These articles have never been repealed, except as they have been superseded and rendered obsolete by the adoption of the Federal Constitution. One article, No. 11, relates to Canada, and we believe it is still in full force. This article provides as follows: "Canada acceding to this confederation, and joining in the measures of the United States, shall be admitted into, and entitled to all the advantages of this Union; but no other colony shall be admitted into the same, unless such admission be agreed to by nine states." This is a standing invitation, long neglected by Canada and almost forgotten by Americans. One reason is, few people are familiar with the statutes of the United States. These statutes begin with the Declaration of Independence; then follow the articles of confederation, the ordinances of 1787 and the Constitution and the laws of Congress.

BRITISH FORCE PUSHING ON INTO THIBET.



THE ROCK PALACE of THE HOLY DALAI LAMA



ARROW SHOWS LOCATION of CHUMBI VALLEY WHERE THE MISSION IS AT PRESENT STATIONED

FROM THE SPHERE

London, Dec. 19.—More letters addressed by Lord Curzon, the viceroy of India, to the Dalai, at Lhassa, have been returned.

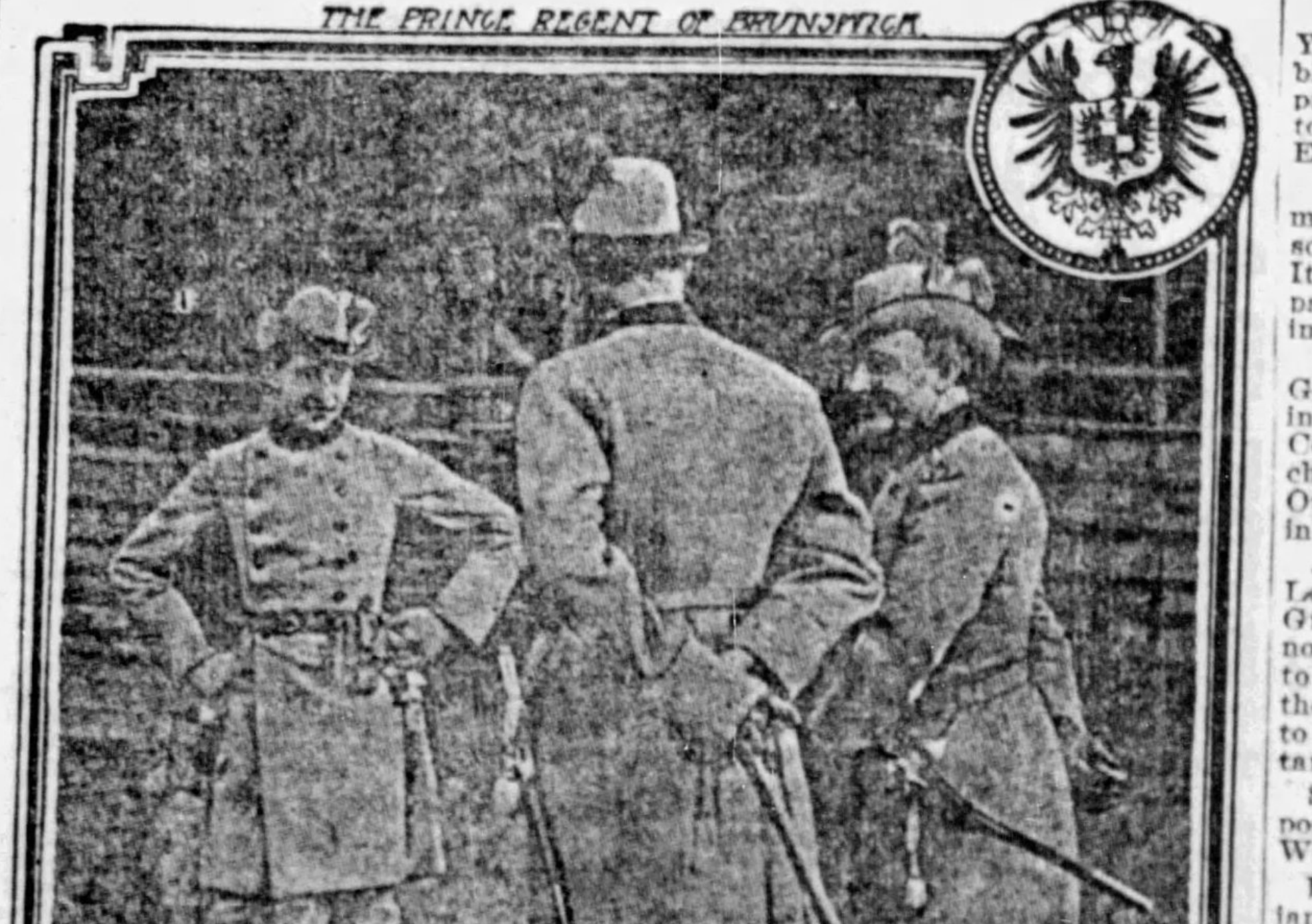
The various units of the British expedition to Thibet are concentrating in the Chumbi valley, where Cols. Younghusband and Macdonald are awaiting them. They have had desperate obstacles of cold and climbing to overcome.

According to the latest information, the monks of Lhassa completely dominate the situation, and use all their influence to suppress any sentiment favorable to granting India Thibetan trade facilities, to the abrogation of which the present expedition is attributed.

FIRST U. S. MINISTER TO PANAMA

W I BUCHANAN

KAISER AND CROWN PRINCE.


THE PRINCE REGENT of BRUNSWICK
THE CROWN PRINCE
THE KAISER

The cat took its supper this way every evening before the cold weather set in, and, like the patient cow, had not the least idea that it would figure in a freak picture. The snapshot, which was taken by Herschel F. Steddom, of Lebanon, Ohio, is no photographic trick, but pussy's method of taking her supper certainly is as curious a gustatory trick as has ever been caught by the camera.

Current Events.

National convention of the Prohibition party is set for Kansas City on June 29.

A meeting of scientists in New York adops resolutions spreading the war on mosquitoes to every state in the Union.

Mrs. Daniel Manning, of Albany, N. Y., is elected president of the board of lady managers of the St. Louis exposition.

Senate passes the Cuban reciprocity treaty by a vote of 57 to 18. One Republican opposes and nine Democrats favor the measure.

Hot fight for the Democratic national convention is promised between Chicago and New York. Senator Gorman favors the western city.

Passenger rates to the Yellowstone Park are lowered 33 1-3 to 40 per cent, it being understood that President Roosevelt influenced the action of the railways.

Balance sheet of the Pullman company, submitted to the Massachusetts commission of corporations, shows a cash surplus of $17,872,658, or 24 per cent on capital.

German soldier testifies before a court-martial that at the command of an officer he dashed his head against a wall until he fell senseless. The guilty officer is given a heavy sentence.

Secretary of the board of regents of the University of California is short in his accounts and is said to have confessed that he lost $20,000 of the university's fund on the race track.

Canal treaty with Panama is received at the state department, but the sealed box in which it is contained will not be opened until the arrival in Washington of the minister of the new republic.

Andrew Carnegie, in a speech in New York city, declares that the negroes are a blessing to this country and make it impregnable. He says a threat to stop cotton exports would end any attack by England.

Full report of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow in the postoffice scandal is made public in Washington. It charges many new irregularities on the part of high officials in the department, including Perry S. Heath.

Former First Assistant Postmaster General Perry S. Heath is scored and his integrity attacked in the report of Messrs. Conrad and Bonaparte on the Tulloch charges, made public in Washington. Other high postal officials are criticised in connection with his acts.

Joseph Chamberlain, in speeches at Leeds, favors "splendid isolation" of Great Britain and her colonies, and announces that a committee is being formed to investigate the various industries of the United Kingdom and the colonies and to gather facts on which to base a new tariff bill.

Senate committee on military affairs postpones action on the General Leonard Wood case to Jan. 4.

Board of Lady managers of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition decides to ask Congress for $100,000, and will go over the heads of the fair company to get it.

Pope Pius is elated at settlement of the friar question in the Philippines and Governor Taft is in high favor at the vatican. Church lands are to be sold to the Filipinos.

Signing of the Cuban reciprocity bill by President Roosevelt and his proclamation making it operative in ten days opens new complications with other sugar-producing countries.

Turkish minister in Washington enters a protest on behalf of his government against the sending of war ships to take Conrad Davis back to Alexandretta. The naval escort, however, will not be withdrawn.

United States cruiser Atlanta discovers the Colombian army on the Gulf of Darien and reports that the troops, from information gathered, are engaged in building a military road to facilitate invasion. A strong United States fleet is gathering.

Agreement between the Northern Pacific railroad and the Boston Steamship company, tending to shut tramp vessels from the hemp trade from the Philippines, is admitted before the interstate commission.

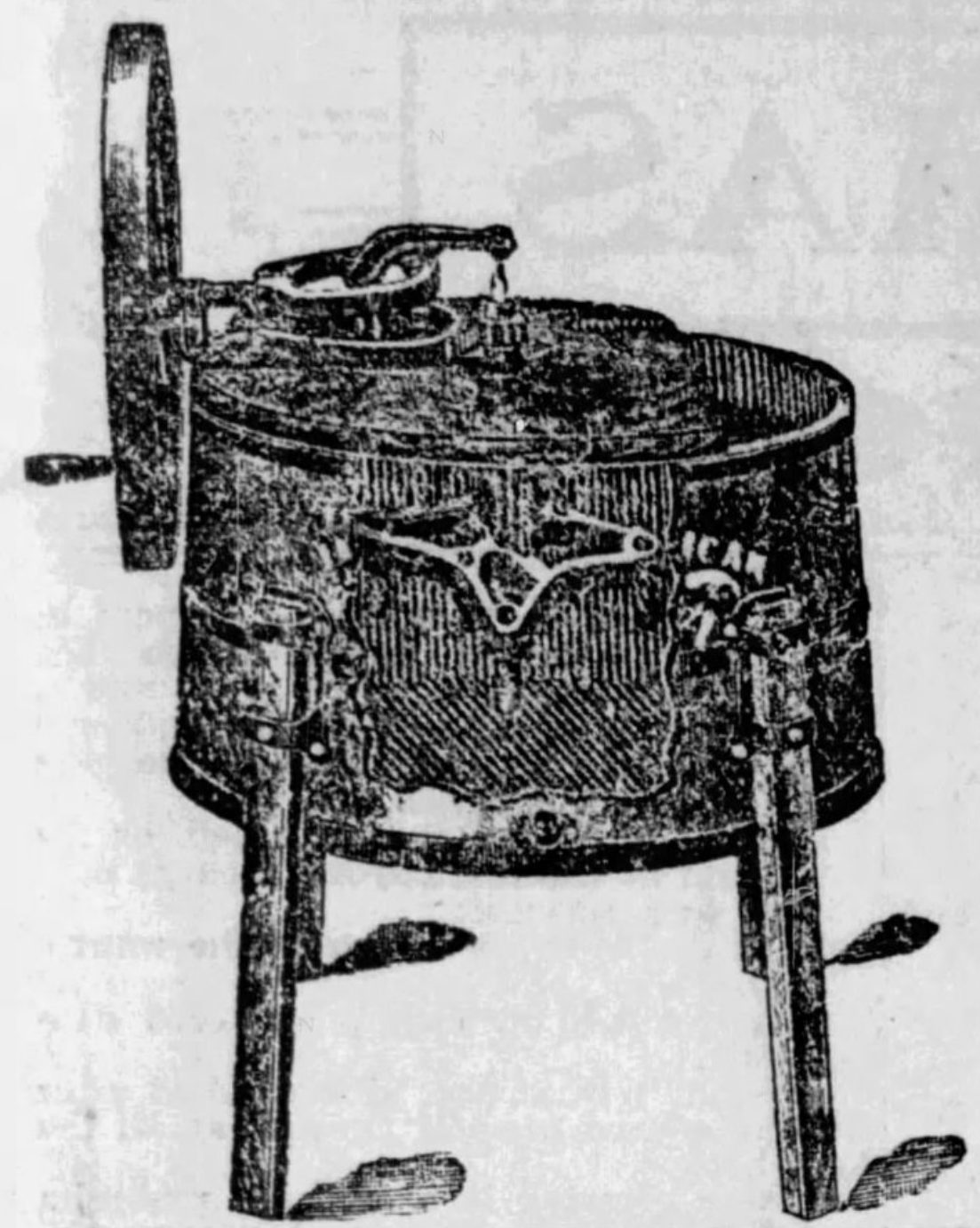
Plot to assassinate President Roosevelt and perhaps other men high in the nation's affairs is believed by the police of Galveston, Tex., to have been discovered through the arrest of Charles Piersen, who delivers an anarchistic speech in the streets.

Charles Steele, member of J. P. Morgan & Co., testifies at the shipbuilding trust hearing in New York City that millions of the stock went to Schwab and Morgan & Co. as compensation for nominal risks and interest and profits in the sale of the Bethlehem steel plant.

On December 17, M. Comtesse, a member of the bundesrath from Neuchatel, and M. Ruecha, a member from the canton De Vaud, were elected respectively president and vice president of Switzerland for 1904.

Durbo, in Italian Somaliland, bombarded by Italian warship as lesson to natives who killed Lieutenant Graham on December 6.

The New Improved Blade Rotary Washing Machine



Ball Bearings.

Our Improved Blade Rotary Washer is the best article of the kind ever placed on the market. The tub is constructed of the best quality red Louisiana Cypress, arranged for large sized clothes wringer, cover opening arranged so it cannot bind, swell or stick, and has universal ball races and ball bearings. The oscilating movement is the easiest working gearing yet devised for working a washing machine. This machine can be attached to water or electric motor or operated by turning the large balance wheel by hand continuously in one direction. Can be operated while seated on a chair and entirely eliminates the stooping or strain on the back as in the old style washing machine.

The regular price of this machine is $7.00. We offer it and the Weekly Blade one year for only........................ **$5.00**

The machine is shipped by freight. The purchaser pays the freight on receipt of the goods.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Good Bread

If you want to learn how to make good bread, or wish to improve your method of making bread, send for our six recipes for making bread and rolls. We send them FREE to every one asking for them.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

SILVER-PLATED TABLEWARE

We offer our readers, this season, the Rogers Bros.' very handsome Carlton pattern of spoons These goods are plated with pure silver on nickel silver base, and are fully guaranteed by the manufacturers.

The knives are first coated with copper, then heavily plated with nickel and afterwards with silver. The nickel plate not only doubles the durability of the goods, but, being nearly impervious to moisture, renders knives so plated less liable to rust than those plated in the ordinary way.

Prices:

½ doz. Teaspoons....	85c
½ doz. Dessert Spoons	$1.50
½ doz. Table Spoons	1.60
½ doz. Knives and Forks....	3.75

All goods are sent by open mail or express, all charges prepaid by us. If you desire package registered, send 8c extra. A charge of 2c per letter is made for engraving.

Address all orders to
THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Waltham and Elgin Watches

We now make the most remarkable offers in the history of the watch business—WALTHAM and ELGIN watches only, regular 18 size and 6 size, in cases of the highest grade. Our gold cases are made of solid gold in two thick plates, reinforced with a sheet of fine composition metal. If properly used the 25-year cases will last a lifetime. Every watch contains Breguet hairspring, quick train, compensation balance safety pinion, stem winding and setting apparatus of the latest design, and all the greatest improvements known to modern expert watchmakers. WALTHAM and ELGIN watches don't wear out. They are all good. Of course, full (15) jeweled works in 25-year cases are better than 7 jeweled works in 20-year cases, but all are fully guaranteed. Why not have correct time? You can have it if you are fortunate enough to get one of our watches. These offers are not for the general public, but any subscriber may buy all he wishes at these prices, which are far lower than dealers' prices for watches not so good. Our men's watches are suitable for boys and our ladies' watches for girls.

The cases are plain or engine-turned. Engraved cases are extra, as per rates quoted in our list.

MEN'S GOLD WATCHES.

Our prices include free delivery, in good running order.

No. 71-7-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case	$14.30
Extra for engraved case......................	$1.00
No. 72—7-jeweled works, 25-year open-face case	11.65
Extra for engraved case...............	80 cents
No. 73—15-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case	15.90
Extra for engraved case..................	$1.00
No. 74—15-jeweled works, 25-year open-face case	13.25
Extra for engraved case...............	80 cents
No. 75—7-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case	12.20
No. 76—7-jeweled works, 20-year open-face case	9.75
No. 77—15-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case	13.75
No. 78—15-jeweled works, 20-year open-face case	11.30
MEN'S NICKEL SILVER WATCHES.	
No. 79-7-jeweled works, nickel silver, open-face case	5.60
No. 80—15-jeweled works, nickel silver, open-face case	7.20
LADIES GOLD WATCHES.	
No. 81—7-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case	12.15
Extra for engraved case...............	80 cents
No. 82—15 jeweled works, 25-year hunting case	14.00
Extra for engraved case...............	80 cents
No. 83—7-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case	11.35
No. 84—15-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case	13.20

Remember our goods are just exactly as represented, and if you do not find them to be so, we will refund your money.

Address THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

The Toledo Blade Quick Reference

Atlas of The World

A little giant among Atlases.

It will post you correctly.

Embraces the most essential features of $10.00 Atlases in convenient form.

574 pages—over 200 pages of maps—over 300 pages of index.

To know the world, study its geography. This little book will help you wonderfully.

It is in fact a wonder Atlas. Newly engraved maps, in beautiful colors, of the World, North Pole, Continents, United States, Political, Topographical, Historical, Hemispheres, Porto Rico, Hawaii, Alaska, Philippines, every state and territory, Canada and each separate province. Every country in the world, areas of all states and countries.

Indexed Gazetteer of over 40,000 names, locating the town, river, mountain or lake correctly on the map.

No part of the world neglected.

Regular price, $1.00.
Our price.................. .... **60 cents**

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

A $5.00 Garment Cutting System for 50c

The New London Ladies' Tailor System.

For ladies' and children's garment cutting. It is a perfect system for drafting and cutting women's gowns, dresses, cloaks, jackets, etc., and is the invention of the late Professor Wellington. It is in use by many of America's leading tailors, designers and cutters.

A child can draft and cut by it and its use effects a great saving in cloth, labor and time.

This system is self-instructive. No coaxing and pleading with the people has been necessary to sell the New London Ladies' Tailor System. It is rapidly selling at $5.00, because it is practical, useful, cheap, durable, and in every respect a benefit to the purchaser, because it commends itself at first sight to every intelligent person, and is, without a doubt, the most simple and best system of dress cutting ever invented. Nearly every family has a sewing machine, and not one in twenty has a system of garment cutting, and not one in fifty a system possessing any special merit. It is, therefore, a necessity, and not a luxury. This system is so simple and easy to understand that personal instructions are unnecessary. With it one can cut nearly any style of garment from the fashion plates, in all the different sizes, and get a perfect fit without change of seams or trying on the garment.

This system is in the form of a chart. We have a limited number of these charts, and while they last will furnish them to our subscribers at 50c each. This is a rare opportunity to obtain one of the most popular $5.00 cutting systems on the market at a trifling cost. Get your order in early.

THE BLADE,
Toledo, Ohio.

Mrs. Roosevelt is hostess at a brilliant reception to the diplomatic corps at the White House.

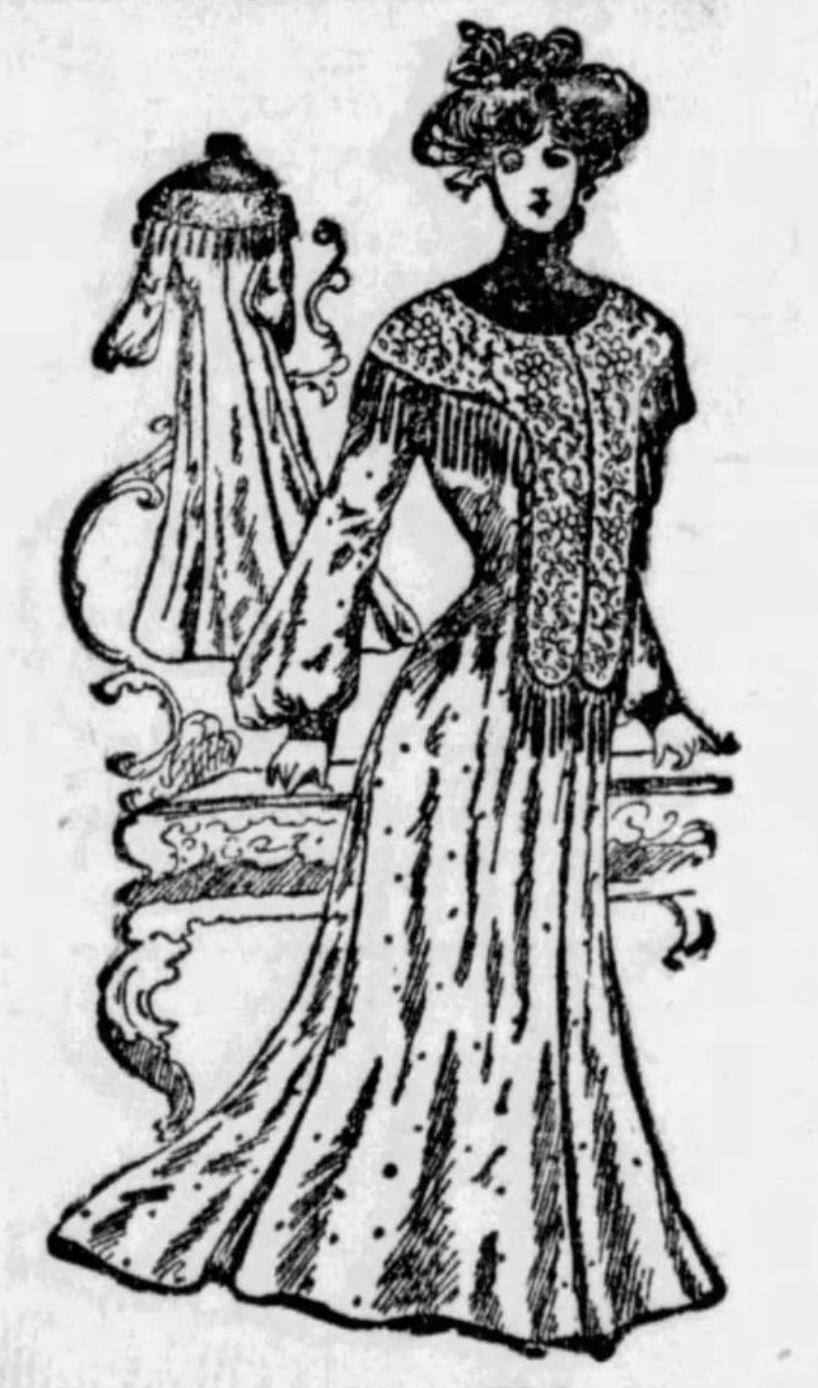
Cut Paper Patterns.

These patterns will be mailed to any address at only 10 cents each. In ordering, address your letter, "Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio." Inclose 10 cents in silver for each pattern ordered. Do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds. Write very plainly the NUMBER and the NAME of each pattern, as it appears under the cut, and also the BUST MEASURE you wish.

Ladies' Wrapper, No. 9193.

At this season of the year, more attention is given to the development of house gowns, than toilettes for street and evening wear. A dainty wrapper is shown here developed in pale blue and black polka-dot foulard, trimmed with black panne and lace, dyed to match the foulard.

The back is made in princesse style, giving long, graceful lines, that are decidedly becoming. Extensions added at each side of the center back are arranged at the lower edge of the yoke. This is completed with a standing collar. Medallions of lace decorate yoke and collar.



9193—Ladies' Wrapper.
32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inch bust.

The lace bertha outlines the yoke and is extended to form long stole ends. The bertha is trimmed with long black silk fringe. The full fronts hang loosely from the yoke, but may be belted in with ribbons fastened at the underarm seams if preferred.

One-piece bishop sleeves fit the arm closely from the shoulder to elbow. They are quite wide at the lower edge, where the fulness is arranged on narrow velvet wristbands, dropping well at the back.

Wrappers in this style are made of challie, Henrietta, cashmere, nun's veiling, or French flannel. If a plainer effect is desired, the bertha may be omitted. Some wrappers have berthas of silk fabric, edged with lace or velvet ribbon.

To make the wrapper in the medium size, will require seven and three-quarter yards of material, thirty-six inches wide, with five-eighth yard of velvet, and one yard of lace. The pattern No. 9193, is cut in sizes of a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, and 42-inch bust measure.

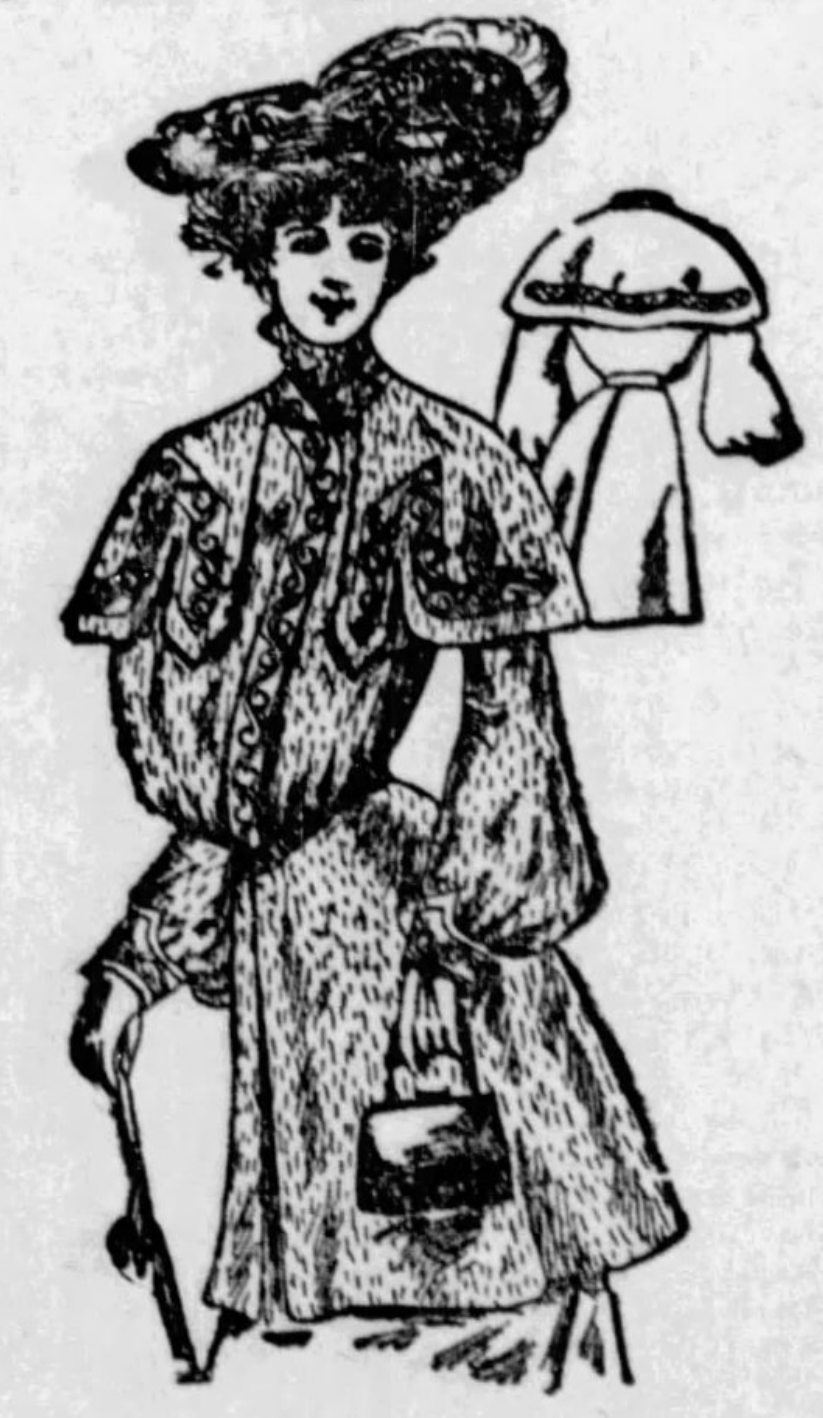
BE SURE to give both the number and the name of the pattern, and, the bust measure also.

Ladies' Coat, With Cape, No. 9202

In loose and tight-fitting coats, three-quarter lengths are preferred to short ones this season. A stylish garment is shown here developed in rose colored panne zibeline, with trimmings of peau de soie embroidered in scroll design.

The body portion of the coat is shaped with shoulder and underarm seams only. The back is plain from shoulder to belt and a smooth adjustment is maintained under the arms.

A military shoulder cape is included in the neck; it is round at the back and shaped with pointed tabs in front. The coat closes in slightly double-breasted style and is finished at the neck with a band of trimming which extends to the waist line. The collar is omitted.



9202—Ladies' Coat with Cape.
32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust.

Full fronts are gathered and arranged on a narrow belt. If desired the garment may terminate at the waist. A circular skirt portion is fitted smoothly around the waist with small darts. Fulness at the center back is arranged in an underlying plait at each side.

One-piece bishop sleeves fit the arm closely from shoulder to elbow, and are quite wide at the lower edge, where they are completed with fancy wristbands.

The cape, belt, wristbands and front trimmings are all stylishly trimmed with embroidery done in several shades of red. Coats in this style may be used as separate outside garments or made of the same fabric as the skirt, forming part of a stylish tailor-made suit.

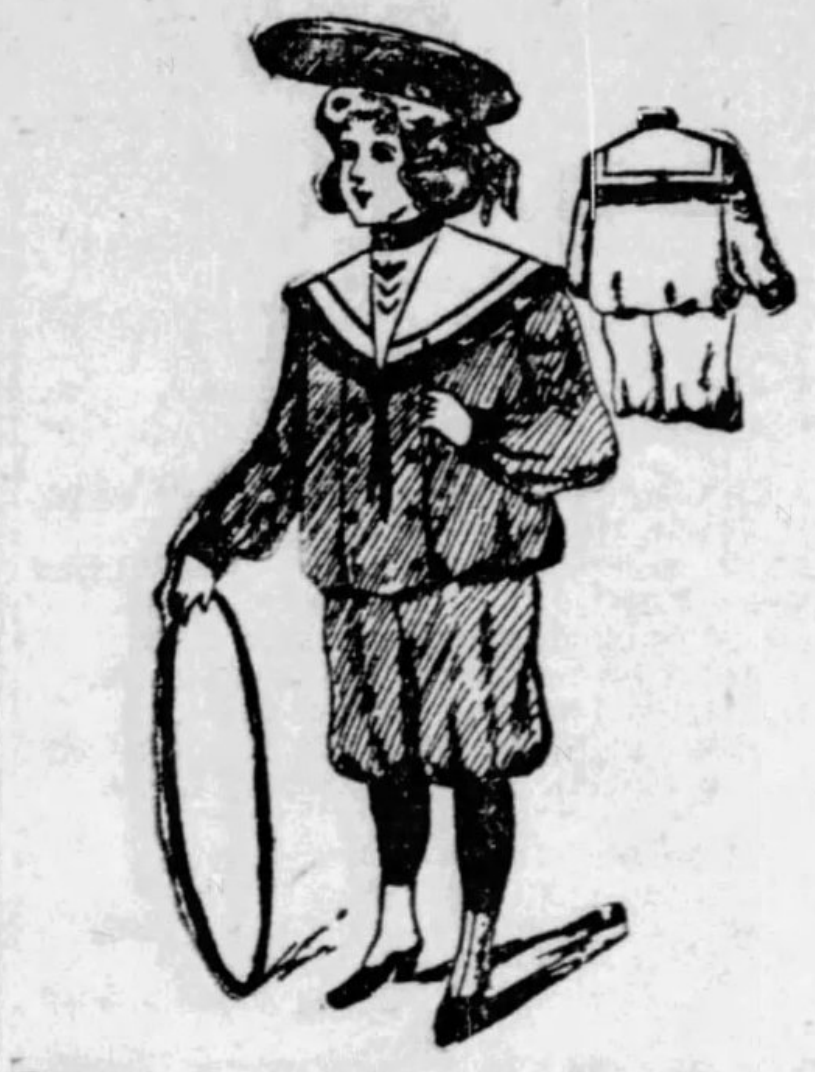
To make the coat in the medium size will require three and three-quarter yards of material, forty-four inches wide with three-eights yards for cuffs. The pattern, No. 9202, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure.

Double-Breasted Blouse Suit, No. 9188

Marine blue serge is used for this natty suit trimmed with white flannel and dark blue velvet ribbon.

The trousers are shaped with inside and outside leg seams and fitted at the waist with small darts. They are drawn in tightly at the knee with elastic passed through a casing at the lower edge. This elastic, if strong, will also serve the purpose of garters.

A seamless body lining is faced with white to simulate a shield that is completed with a shallow velvet collar. The trousers are fastened to the lower edge of this lining, buttons being placed on the waist and buttonholes worked in the band of the trousers.



9188—Boy's Double Breasted Blouse Suit.
4, 6, 8 and 10 years.

The blouse is adjusted with shoulder and underarm seams. It is quite wide at the belt, where the fulness is arranged on elastic or tape through a casing. The closing is made in double-breasted style, two rows of buttons decorating the broad box plait in the center.

A large sailor collar of white cloth completes the neck. It is square at the back and the front ends are drawn closely by a smart cravat. Bands of velvet finish the edges of the collar.

Bishop sleeves are made with inside seams only. They fit the upper arm well and are wide at the wrist where they are gathered and attached to velvet cuffs.

Suits in this style are made of cheviot, covert, tweed, serge or flannel, and if contrasting material is not desired the trimming may be finished with fancy braid or machine stitching done in another color.

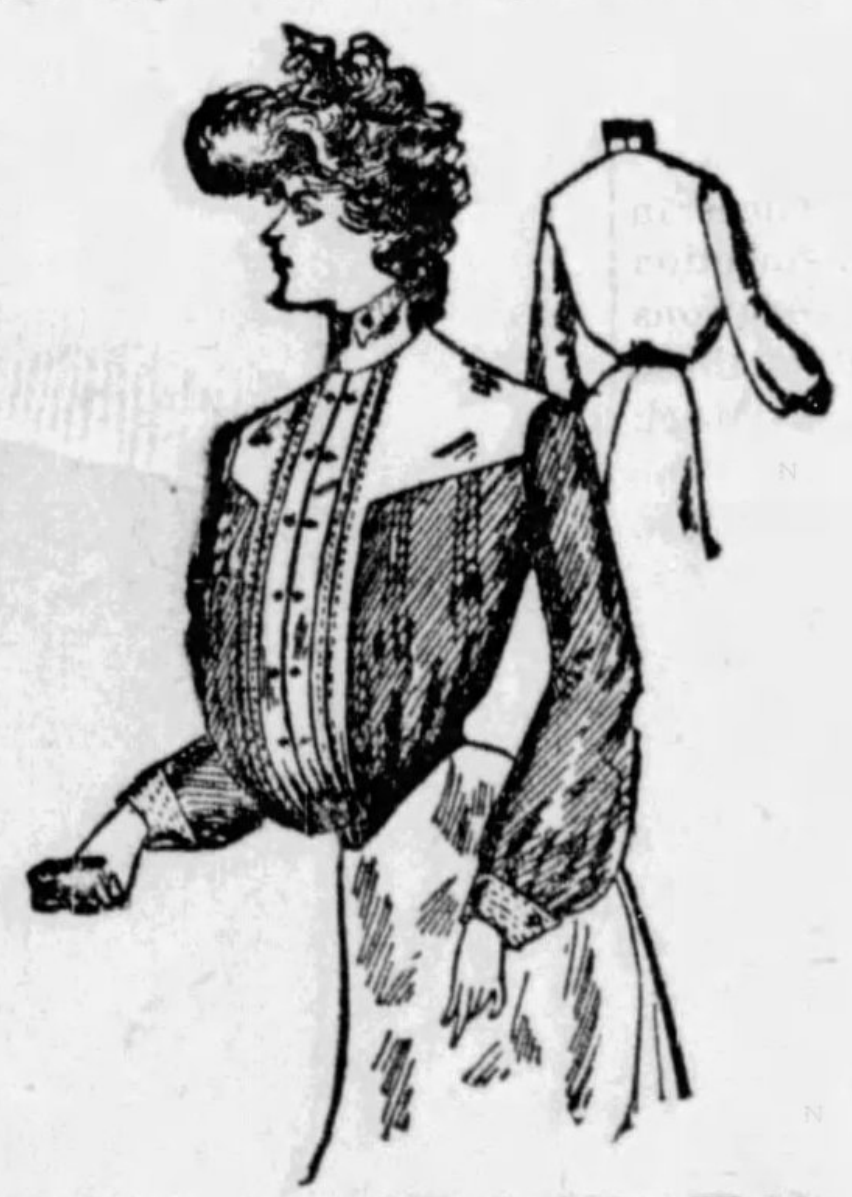
To make the suit for a boy of six years will require two and one-half yards of material thirty-six inches wide with three-quarter yard for trimming and one-half yard of lining for waist. The pattern, No. 9188, is cut in sizes for boys of 4, 6, 8 and 10 years.

Tucked Shirt Waist, No. 9203.

Nickel gray cashmere is used for this stylish waist, with pale gray cloth for trimming. The foundation is a glove-fitted feather-boned lining, that closes in the center front.

The back is plain across the shoulders, and drawn down close, slight fulness at the center being arranged in fine gathers at the belt.

Full fronts are tucked in two clusters of three tucks, that are stitched down part way. The closing is made with nickel link buttons and buttonholes worked through deep tucks on the edges.



9203—Ladies' Tucked Shirt Waist.
32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust.

Two forward-turning tucks reach from neck to belt, forming a vest. The plastron is extended to form a square yoke. A plain collar completes the neck and is trimmed with a stitched protector.

One-piece bishop sleeves fit the arms closely from shoulder to elbow, and are quite wide at the lower edge where the fulness is arranged on narrow wristbands. To these are attached flaring cuffs, that fasten at the back with buttons that match those used in front.

The waist blouses a trifle in front, over a narrow velvet belt, that fastens with a small buckle. Waists in this style are made of flannel, albatross, serge, Henrietta, peau de soie and taffeta.

To make the waist in the medium size, will require three and one-quarter yards of material twenty-seven inches wide, with one and one-quarter yards for trimming. The pattern No. 9203, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure.

Thirteen-Gored Skirt, No. 9182.

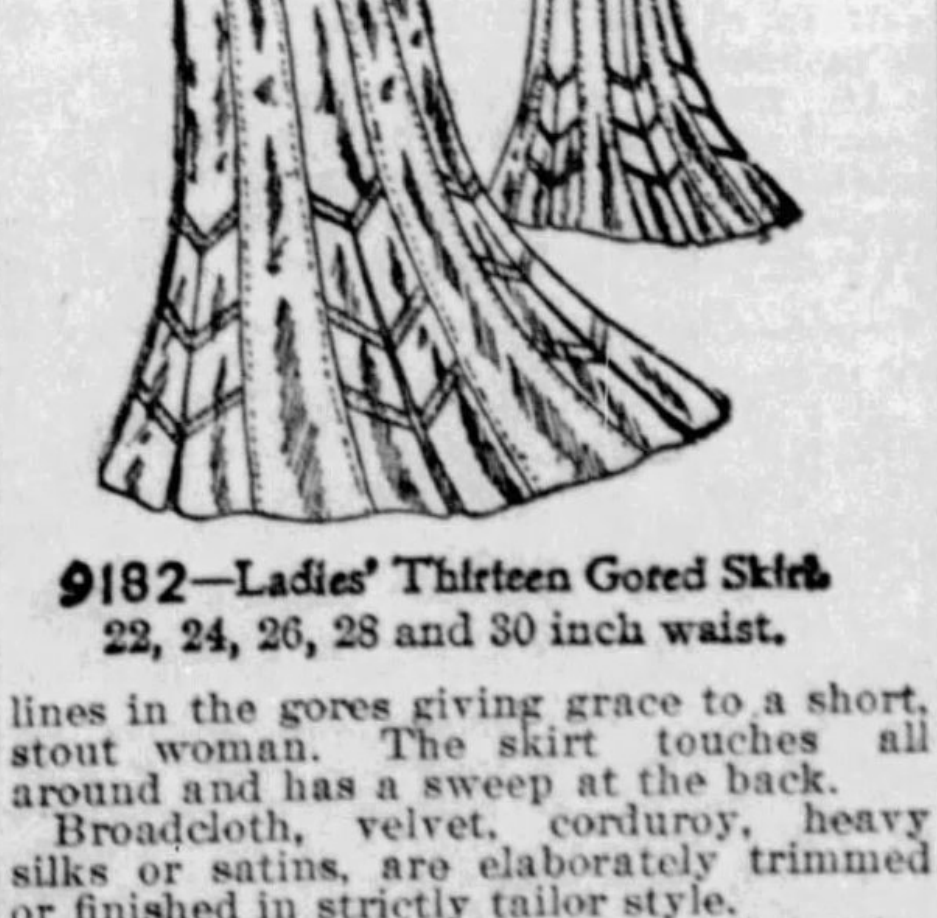
Many narrow gores are seen in skirts intended for heavy fabrics. The long lines add grace to the model and provide an opportunity for trimming.

The skirt shown here is developed in biscuit satin-faced cloth and trimmed with stitched bands of self-fabric. The adjustment is made with thirteen gores fitted smoothly around the waist and hips without darts. The skirt closes in habit effect.

Six side gores extend from belt to hem and are heavily machine stitched at the top. The front and four side gores are cut off at the knee, the lower edge being pointed. Below the point is an underlying plait that is flatly pressed and flares smartly around the bottom. Bands of the cloth are used to trim the plaits.

Extensions added at the back edge of the back gores are arranged in a hollow box plait, which gives the same effect as the front and side sections.

Skirts in this style are becoming alike to slender and stout figures, the long lines in the gores giving grace to a short, stout woman. The skirt touches all around and has a sweep at the back.



9182—Ladies' Thirteen Gored Skirt.
22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inch waist.

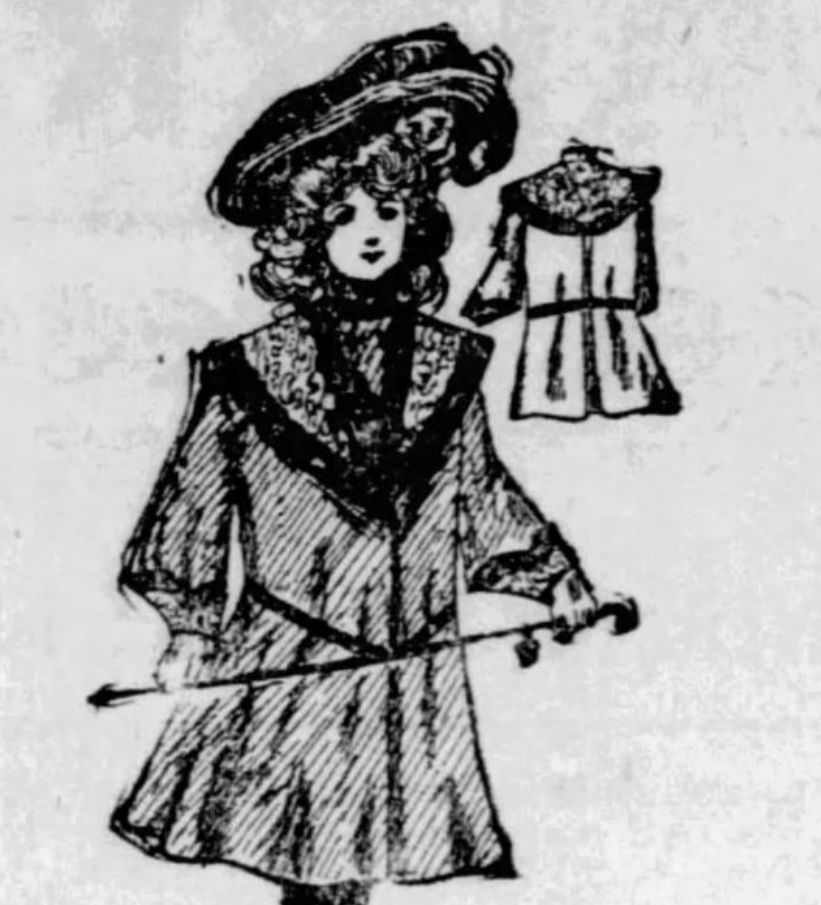
Broadcloth, velvet, corduroy, heavy silks or satins, are elaborately trimmed or finished in strictly tailor style.

To make the skirt in the medium size will require 6 yards of material 44 inches wide. The pattern, No. 9182, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30-inch waist measure.

Coat With Adjustable Shield, No. 9171

Brown is one of the fashionable colors this season, and is shown in garments for children as well as grown folks. An attractive coat is given here developed in bronze cheviot, with white lace and brown velvet ribbon for trimming. The large hat is of brown velvet, with a large ecru plume.

The coat is simply adjusted with shoulder and undearm seams. An inverted box plait at the center back is narrow at the neck and wide at the lower edge. It is flatly pressed as far as the waist, and provides additional fulness at the lower edge.



9171—Girls' Coat with Adjustable Shield.
6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

The coat fits well on the shoulders and hangs loosely in box effect to the hem, the fulness at the waist being drawn in with a narrow belt that has a fashionable dip in front. The coat closes invisibly in double-breasted style, and the neck is finished with a round collar that forms points in front. The collar is of lace, edged with velvet.

An adjustable shield is completed with a standing collar. It may be permanently attached to the coat and fastened in the back if desired.

One-piece sleeves fit the upper arm quite closely and are wider at the lower edge, where the fulness is arranged on scalloped cuffs that are narrow in front and deep at the back. The cuffs are of lace and velvet.

Garments in this style are made of broadcloth, zibeline, velveteen, corduroy or cloaking, and elaborately trimmed or finished in strictly tailor style with machine stitching.

To make the coat for a girl of 8 years will require 2½ yards of material 44 inches wide, with ¾ yard of lace. The pattern, No. 9171, is cut in sizes for girls of 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

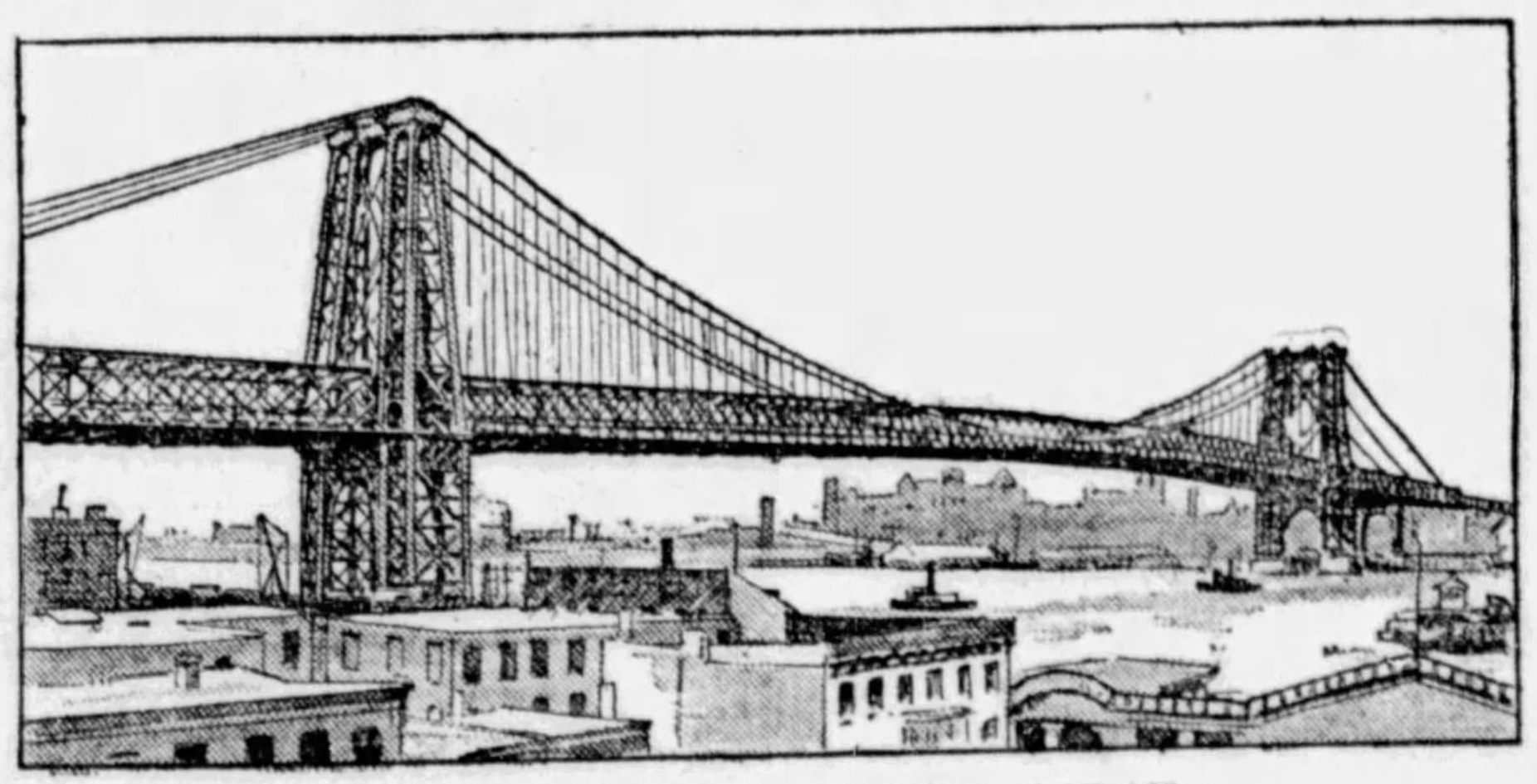
Address as follows, including the price of the pattern ordered:

PATTERN DEPARTMENT,
THE BLADE, TOLEDO OHIO.

THE NEW BRIDGE

Across the East River Is Opened for Traffic.

New York, Dec. 19.—Big ships and little ships, tugboats and rowboats, naphtha launches and steam launches, and scows and craft of every conceivable size and description swarmed in the East River opposite the Brooklyn navy yard, today, and screeched their whistles and fired their guns to apprise all within hearing that the new Williamsburg bridge, after an expenditure of $20,000,000 and eight years of toil, was at last an accomplished fact. It was a day of jubilation for New York in general, and for Williamsburg in particular, for to the people of the last named section of the metropolis the completion of the new bridge means freedom from the dangerous crush they have been obliged to contend with for years in crossing the old Brooklyn bridge. The ceremonies attending the formal opening were simple but impressive. The chief officials of the city, together with representatives of the federal government, army and naval officers, distinguished engineers and other invited guests, assembled in the center of the gigantic span across the river, and listened to orations appropriate to the occasion delivered by Mayor Low, Bridge Commissioner Lindenthal and Borough Presidents Cantor and Swanstorm. Commissioner Lindenthal made the opening address, formally turning the bridge over to the city. The speech of acceptance was delivered by Mayor Low, and was the chief feature of the ceremonies. The completion of the exercises was marked by the booming of cannon and the unfurling of flags throughout the great length of the structure.



THE NEW BRIDGE OPENED TODAY.

The general public was not permitted to cross the bridge today, and thus was avoided the possibility of a crush such as was witnessed at the opening of the Brooklyn bridge, and which resulted in the deaths of more than a score of persons. But one roadway of the new bridge is entirely completed, and this will probably be opened to traffic tomorrow or Monday. It is expected that the other roadway and the paths for pedestrians will be ready within a few weeks.

The length of the bridge between its terminals is 7,200 feet, or over one and one-third miles. The main span, from the center of one tower to that of the other, is 1,600 feet long. The width of the structure is 118 feet, as compared with 85 feet, the width of the old Brooklyn bridge. The minimum height above high water at pier head lines is 122 feet and its minimum height for 200 feet on either side of the center of the main span is 135 feet. The height of the cable on the top of the towers is 333 feet at their center.

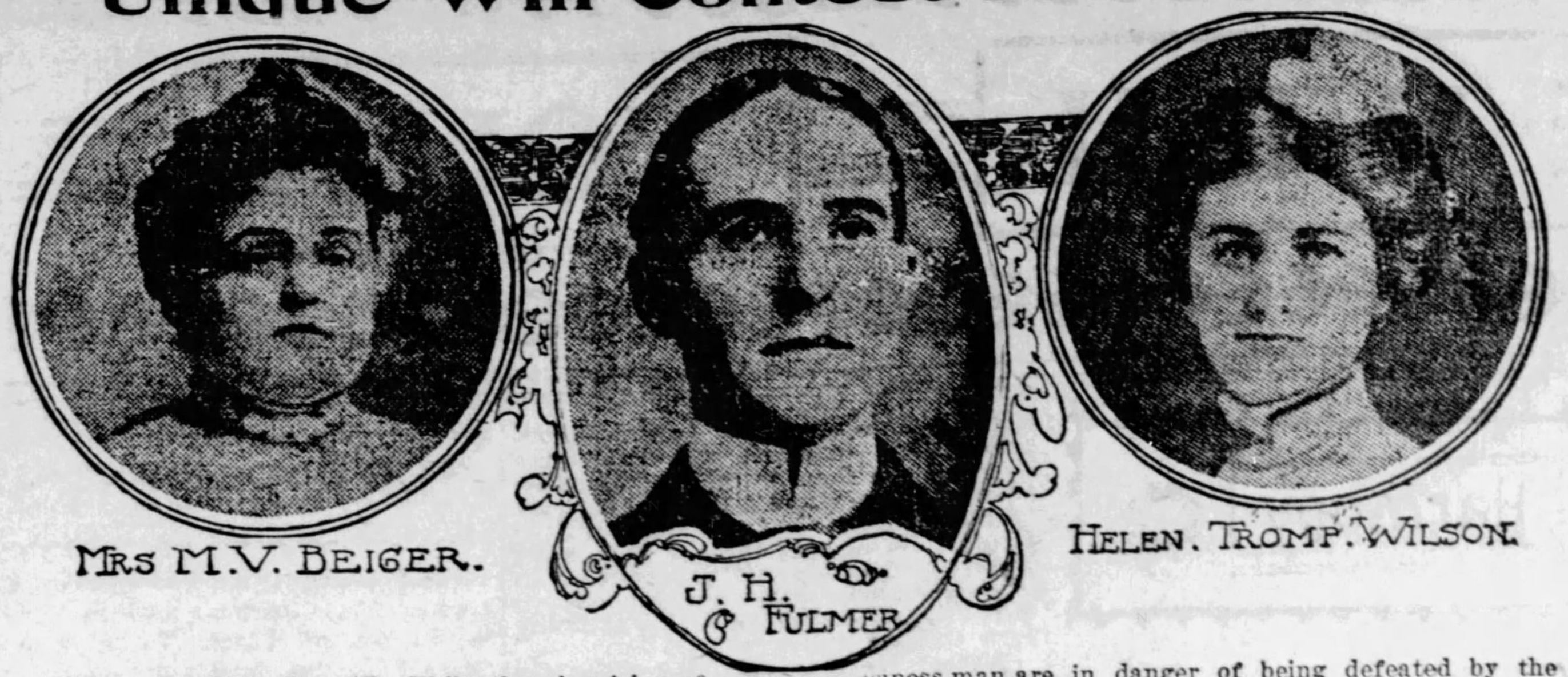
Three thousand and forty-eight tons of steel have been used in constructing each of the towers, while nearly 17,000 tons have been put into the great approaches. In each of the suspension cables, which are 18¾ inches in diameter, there are 7,696 separate wires, these wires being 3,500 feet long and 3-16 of an inch in thickness. Six and one-half million feet of timber were required to construct the bridge, and the steel employed amounted to 40,000 tons. It was necessary to excavate 125,000 cubic feet of earth and to tear down several hundred buildings and houses.

Both of the towers are planted on solid rock foundations. For the Manhattan anchorage 3,500 piles were driven through clay and sand until they reached a solid foundation. The anchorage on the Williamsburg side is said to rest on natural sandstone. The bridge is provided with two drives for carriages, four trolley tracks, two elevated tracks, two footwalks and two bicycle tracks.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

New York, Dec. 19.—Statistics compiled by the superintendent of the money order division, New York postoffice, show Christmas gifts of American coin, reaching a total of $1,408,960, were carried to Europe on the liner St. Louis, which sailed Saturday, the Kaiser Wilhelm on Tuesday, and the Oceanic on Wednesday. Of this sum England received $628,399. The total amount forwarded in domestic money orders to points in the United States and Canada on Thursday alone, was $2,381,706.

Unique Will Contest in Indiana.



MRS M.V. BEIGER.
J. H. FULMER
HELEN. TROMP. WILSON.

Mishawaka, Ind., Dec. 17.—Philanthropic wishes of a [illegible] business man are in danger of being defeated by the sensational contest begun for the annullment of the will of Martin Valentine Beiger, a manufacturer, of this city, and trustee of numerous educational and benevolent institutions. His desire to have colleges, hospitals and churches benefit by his fortune will, perhaps, be frustrated by a jury in the circuit court.

When Mrs. Beiger learned, after her husband's death, that she was left only a life interest in $500,000, and that all would revert at her death to his relatives, and that certain educational and benevolent institutions were to receive big sums, she raised objections to the provisions of the will. Her contention was that much of the estate was already in her name, having been given to her years ago by her husband, and that as this property held in her name had been willed away, he was clearly of unsound mind, and unfit to execute a will. The outcome is looked for with interest. The two persons most interested in the result besides Mrs. Beiger, are J. H. Fulmer and Helen Thompson Wilson.

FRIARS' LANDS.

An Agreement Finally Reached Regarding Them.

Manila, Dec. 17.—An agreement has been reached by Governor Taft and the friars providing for the settlement of the friar "land question." The pope has given his approval of the terms of the settlement and the approval of the War department is awaited. The settlement provides for the purchase of 403,000 acres, comprising all the agricultural lends and holdings of the friars, with the exception of 12,000 acres, including a farm near Manila, which has been sold to a railroad company, and also one sugar plantation.

The price agreed upon is seven million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The friars originally asked fifteen millions. Governor Taft offered six millions.

Rome, Dec. 18.—Considerable excitement prevailed in the mother houses of the Dominicans, Augustinians, Franciscans and Recollects over the announcement of the settlement of the friars' land question in the Philippines. While the fact that a settlement had been arrived at was announced to the heads of the orders by the vatican the orders learned from the Associated Press correspondent the price, $7,250,000, to be paid. The friars were glad the negotiations had been concluded, but they think the orders got little for the lands, since the price they originally asked, $12,000,000, was, they declare, under the estimated value of the lands, the value of which had been much increased, especially since the American occupation of the Philippines and the re-establishment of order in the archipelago.

The friars claim the money they will receive is scarcely enough to pay what they borrowed when they were deprived of everything by the revolution. Besides, they point out that only part of the money will go to the friars, as the lands were really transferred to private companies, although the friars retained a large number of shares in them. The Augustinians had their lands transferred to a company formed in Madrid by the Marquis di Comillias, the head of the Spanish Trans-Atlantic Navigation company. The Dominicans succeeded in so thoroughly concealing their ownership of lands that the vatican itself threatened to punish them severely for having tried to deceive even the ecclesisatical authorities.

WANT PROTECTORATE.

People of Santo Domingo Tired of Revolutions.

San Juan, Dec. 21.—The Cuban steamer Julia from Santo Domingo and Hayti, has arrived here, having on board Senor Espaillat, former minister of war of Santo Domingo, Commander Peres of the Dominican army, Captain Geirra, Colonel Espaillat and other supporters of Former President Wos y Gil. The Julia also brought Juan Medina, a Porto Rican, who has been appointed by the provisional government of Santo Domingo as consul-general to Porto Rico in succession to Senor Morales. The latter, however, refuses to surrender his office, claiming that the provisional government has not been recognized by the United States. He has turned over the effects of the consular office to Senor Galvan, a son of the former Dominican minister of finance. Senor Medina will appeal to Governor Hunt tomorrow for official recognition.

The supporters of General Wos y Gil held a long conference today. The members of the party arriving on the Julia express belief that the intervention of the United States in the affairs of Santo Domingo will be found necessary in the near future. They declare that a crisis is rapidly approaching and that the provisional government finds it impossible to negotiate loans.

The Julia brought news that former President Jiminez is now at Monte Christi; that former Vice-President Des Champs is in control of Porto Plata, and that Generals Morales and Caceres are fortifying the city of San Domingo. It is said that an attempt was recently made to kill General Jiminez and that General Caceres lives in imminent danger of assassination According to reports brought from Hayti a revolution is feared there which may result in the assassination or at least the incarceration of ministers and delegates.

The president of the French bank at Port au Prince has been imprisoned.

The attitude of the people of Hayti towards President Nord is decidedly threatening as they allege that the president has been guilty of embezzling public funds.

IS 83 YEARS OLD.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 19.—At her home in Melrose today, Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, the author and lecturer, celebrated her 83d birthday, surrounded by many friends. During the forenoon, as has been the custom in other years, Mrs. Livermore's daughters and grandchildren called to extend their congratulations. Notwithstanding her advanced age Mrs. Livermore continues to enjoy good health and is as active as ever in the many interests with which she is connected.

TRANSFER CELEBRATED

Centennial of Louisiana Coming Under Our Flag.

New Orleans, La., Dec. 18.—Under the auspices of the state of Louisiana, the city of New Orleans and the Louisiana Historical society, the series of official celebrations in commemoration of the centennial of the transfer of the Louisiana territory from France to the United States was begun today, the day's feature being the review by Governor Heard and a party of distinguished guests of the French and American warships which have come here to assist in the ceremonial. Spain, which owned the territory before its cession to France, accepted an official invitation, but her warship has not yet reached the city and her participation will be through her consul here. It was on the 8th day of December, 1803, that the French flag fluttered down from the station on the flagstaff of the Place D'Armes, opposite the cabildo, in which the official transfer occurred and the Stars and Stripes were hoisted. The commemorative ceremonies will culminate on Sunday with a magnificent pontificial mass in the old St. Louis cathedral. The grandsons of Governor Claiborne and General Williamson, who had a direct participation in the historical event of a hundred years ago will be conspicuous in the celebration.

M. Jusserand, the French ambassador to the United States; President David R. Francis and directors of the St. Louis fair, Judge A. B. Routhier, of the exchequor court of Canada, and Sir E. Tashereau, chief justice of the supreme court of the dominion, have come to assist in the celebration. The United States government has designated Admiral Wise to represent the federal authority. All the court, public offices and schools have closed for the occasion. The celebration began with a reception at the City hall, where Mayor Capedeville received the distinguished guests of the city and state. At noon the governor, the mayor and the visiting guests boarded the United States steamer Stranger and steamed around the fleet, anchoring near the Minneapolis, the flagship of Admiral Wise's squadron. A number of official calls were then made between the visiting commanders and Governor Heard and his staff. The weather is ideal.

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 18.—In commemoration of the formal transfer of Iowa as a part of the Louisiana territory to the United States, 13,000 schools of Iowa are holding special services today. In Des Moines work in the schools and colleges is suspended and the day given up to a celebration of the purchase anniversary.

SKINNER'S MISSION.

He Reached the Capital of Abyssinia on Monday.

Adis Abeba, Abyssinia, Friday, Dec. 18, by courier to Jibutil, French Somiliand, Dec. 21.—Escorted by several thousand Ethiopian soldiers the American mission to Emperor Menelik, headed by Consul General Skinner, entered the Abyssinian capital today. The reception of the Americans was most brilliant and picturesque. Emperor Menelik personally received Mr. Skinner. The emperor, surrounded by the principal functionaries, delivered an oral discourse of welcome to which Mr. Skinner responded, presenting an invitation to the emperor to visit the exposition at St. Louis. The Americans were then conducted to the palace of Ras Georges, where they are lodged.

Mr. Skinner and his party are receiving every attention. A formal audience and conference with the emperor to discuss the purposes of the mission will follow later.

This Will Interest Many.

F. W. Parkhurst, the Boston publisher, says that if any one afflicted with rheumatism in any form, or neuralgia, will send their address to him, at 804-26 Winthrop Bldg., Boston, Mass., he will direct them to a perfect cure. He has nothing to sell or give; only tells you how he was cured after years of search for relief. Hundreds have tested it with success.

"AMERICANISM" IN THE CHURCH

Rome, Dec. 16.—Editor Spadoni, of the Roman Herald, has caused a summons to be issued against Father Martin, general of the Society of Jesus, for the purpose of obtaining compensation with costs, alleged to be due the editor for work done by agreement with Father Martin in the propaganda against the Americanization of the Catholic church in the United States.

The editor says that Father Martin promised to obtain from Pope Leo an encyclical condemning this Americanism in the church and recalling Archbishop Ireland in due obedience to the Holy See, while at the same time Spadoni was to arouse public opinion through the paper which he then published and which was called the True Catholic, issued in both Italian and English. In February, 1899, several thousand copies of this paper were sent to the United States.

Spadoni asserts that owing to his writings and the influence of his paper Americanism in the church had disappeared to a considerable extent, and he called for the alleged promised compensation, not receiving which he had recourse to the law courts. The case will be argued December 18.

Father Martin authorizes the Associated Press to say that Editor Spadoni's allegation is false and that the case is one of blackmail. He said he would not appear in court but would leave the matter altogether in the hands of his lawyer.

A RASCALLY DEED.

Philadelphia, Dec. 19.—"High finance" has entered into Santa Claus' business. Realizing that with a demand for but 50,000 Christmas trees and 80,000 on hand they would lose money, wholesale dealers here combined interests and had thirty car loads of spruce pines taken to the outskirts of the city and burned. More than 40,000 trees were destroyed, leaving but 40,000 to be sold. Prices already have boomed from 75 cents to $3, from $1.50 to $5, and dealers expect to get $8 per tree before Christmas day.

Mormon elders are said to be proselyting among the schoolgirls of New York.

THE PORTE YIELDS.

Governor of Alexandretta Ordered to Apologize.

Constantinople, Dec. 21.—The porte has agreed to the demands of the United States government and has ordered the governor of Alexandretta to make ample apology to Consul Davis for the insults and assault to which he was subjected by the police of Alexandretta while he was escorting to a departing steamer a naturalized American citizen who had been liberated from prison through the intervention of Mr. Davis.

United States Minister Leishman arrived at a friendly understanding in the premises with Tewfik Pasha, Turkish foreign minister, who agreed to the demands of Minister Leishman.

The porte notified the United States legation orally, and in writing of the instructions to the vali of Aleppo to order the governor of Alexandretta to call on Consul Davis immediately upon his arrival at Alexandretta and offer to him a complete apology. The porte has also premised to punish the police officials who assaulted Consul Davis and will allow Attarin to depart unhindered.

The United States cruiser San Francisco, with Rear Admiral Cotton, which left Beirut Friday evening for the purpose of taking Consul Davis to Alexandretta, is expected to arrive there soon and if the Turkish government carries out the program it has formulated the Alexandretta incident may be considered closed. It is felt here that delay or complications are not likely, but Rear Admiral Cotton has received instructions to meet all eventualities.

KEEP HIM OUT!

Tokio, Dec. 15.—Mirza Asgahar Khan, the former grand vizier of Persia, has arrived here on his way to the United States.

On October 19 letters were received from some of Belgian officials employed in the Persian customs finance department telling an amazing story concerning the removal from office of the grand vizier. It appears that some weeks previously the governor of the province of Ratch received a golden cup containing coffee which was poisoned and which the Shah sends to officials whom he wishes to banish from the world. The governor drank the coffee and died. It was discovered later that the golden cup was not sent by the Shah and the Grand Vizier was accused of the act, whereupon he was dismissed. Expecting soon to receive the fatal cup in his turn he asked for and obtained leave to go on a pilgrimage some miles from Teheran, whence he fled to the coast and then sailed for Europe.

FORMER GRAND VIZIER OF PERSIA.

FORGER AND EMBEZZLER.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 21.—Ernest W. Radder, well known in Toledo and late secretary and treasurer of the Central Trust company, here, who died last August, was a forger and embezzler to the extent of thousands of dollars. So far $43,000 is the total sum officially reported, but it is thought the steal will reach nearly $100,000. In view of developments, it is suspected his death was due to suicide.

TROUBLE IN HONDURAS.

Mobile, Ala., Dec. 18.—Advices received by steamer indicate that another revolution is imminent in Honduras and it is said it will take place soon after the first of the year. It is said to be fostered by Ex-President Sierra through a special envoy, with the purpose of ousting President Donilla. On his retirement from the executive chair of Honduras, President Sierra named Senor Arias for President, and he was given the position, when Bonilla organized a revolution and overthrew Arias, who is now an exile in prison at Teguirgalpa. It is said the people are dissatisfied with the conduct of the government, especially in the matter of the Honduras railway. This was built by English capitalists. Since its construction not a cent of interest or principal has been paid the bondholders, and it is asserted that the English government will take cognizance of the matter and enforce the payment.

The Dreyfus Case.

Paris, Dec. 17.—The Liberte confirms the report that the council of the war office has considered the details of Dreyfus' reinstatement in the army and that the regiment he will command, with the rank of lieutenant colonel, has been chosen. It is added that a determination has been reached to deal rigorously with officers who express disapproval of Dreyfus' reinstatement.

Peru Recognizes Panama.

Lima, Peru, Dec. 19.—By a decree dated December 18 the Peruvian government has recognized the republic of Panama.

An irrigation enterprise in Southern Idaho will reclaim a tract of land as large as Rhode Island.

LADIES My Regulator never fails. Box FREE. DR. F. MAY, Box 32 Bloomington, Ill.

If You Trap Or Buy Fur, or know anyone who does, write today for our new plan to make you extra $$ on your fur this winter. Corry Fur Co, Box 30, Corry, Pa

WHY leave your money in savings banks at 2 or 3 per cent interest, when you can obtain 8 per cent by loaning it to established manufacturing concerns —for full information & further particulars address Robert J. Dean, 45 Coal & Iron Ex., Buffalo, N. Y.

$25 Monthly income on $100 invested; also large weekly dividends earned and paid. Free booklet. Edward Harbison, 110 W. 34th Street, New York.

Ladies: I Sell Rubber Syringes. Mrs. Bocklage, 946 Hamlet Street, Newport, Ky.

I SEEK HUSBAND for lady, age 24, worth $20,000; widow 33, $50,000; widow 36, $30,000 and stock farm; lady 22, $10,000 and beautiful farm. Address Jessie, 19 South Broadway, St. Louis, Mo.

Wanted 10 men in each state to travel, tack signs and distribute circulars and samples of our goods. Salary $60.00 per month, $3.00 per day for expenses. KUHLMAN Co., Dept. D6, Atlas Block, CHICAGO.

TELEGRAPHY
Thoroughly and quickly taught. Tuition $40. Positions secured; catalogue free; Sharp's School of Telegraphy, L. Box 224, Huntington, Ind.

FREE YOUR FORTUNE, the truth & nothing but the truth. Send now 4; 2ct. stamps & birthdate. Dr. Best, 21 D, 665, Chicago

BIG PAYING BUSINESS For MEN WOMEN. Write for names of hundreds of delighted customers. Make $30 to $50 weekly. Do business at home or traveling, all or spare time, selling Gray outfits and doing genuine gold, silver, nickle and metal plating on Watches, Jewelry, Tableware, Bicycles, all metal goods. Heavy plate. No experience, quickly learned. Enormous demand. No toys or humbug. Outfits all sizes. Everything guaranteed. Let us start you. We teach you FREE. Write today. H. GRAY & CO., CINCINNATI, O

DANGEROUS TRIP

Of a Crippled Vessel Through the Great Lakes.

Buffalo, Dec. 21.—The steamer J. C. Hutchinson, with Captain Smith in command, arrived at this port Sunday from Detroit, after accomplishing one of the most marvelous trips in the history of the lake marine.

During the voyage her own pumps and two additional ones placed aboard at Detroit were kept constantly at work, four of her compartments being filled with water. She carried a cargo of 150,000 bushels of flax seed. Every craft and plant with steam up gave her a hearty welcome as she entered Buffalo harbor at 7 a. m.

The grim determination of her master, Captain J. H. Smith, which bitter cold, rough seas and huge ice fields, miles in length, could not weaken, was the power which overcame every obstacle. The cost of the trip can only be approximately estimated. A conservative estimate by men who are in a position to know places it between $20,000 and $25,000. The achievement of landing the boat and cargo at the side of the Buffalo elevator is one which will stand out for many years as an example of lake sailors' skill and bravery.

The steamer J. T. Hutchinson was driven on the rocks near Eagle river November 30 at 10 o'clock at night. A blinding snowstorm prevailed at the time completely enveloping the big steamer and preventing the skipper from knowing of his danger until his vessel's bottom had been pierced by the rocks and she was firmly held in a most dangerous position. Thirty feet of water was found to be under her stem and stern. There the vessel valued at $210,000 and a cargo of almost equal value hung. The steamer's owners, J. C. Hutchison & Co., of Cleveland, abandoned her and her cargo of 187,000 bushels of flaxseed to the underwriters as soon as they learned of her perilous position.

Hoping against hope, the underwriters called on Captain Sinclair, of the Great Lakes Towing & Wrecking Co., and he, with the big tugs Favorite and Merrimac, hastened from Detroit to her relief. They arrived on Thursday and began the work of releasing the big steamer. Forty thousand bushels of this grain were thrown into the lake during Friday and then the seas began to rise and the wreckers with the crew were obliged to flee for shelter. Before going Captain Sinclair ordered the dropping of the steamer's anchors, though he could hardly expect that the big storm which was then beginning would leave very much of the vessel.

On his return next morning he was much surprised to see the Hutchinson swinging at her anchors. The high seas had lifted her off the pinnacle of rock on which she had run. Steam was quickly made and the big steamer was headed for Houghton. Even then the thick ice had began to form, and the large wrecking tugs were compelled to break it to make a channel for the steamer.

Temporary repairs were made and the trip was begun again. She slowly proceeded down Lake Huron and the rivers to Detroit. After a troublesome delay there the boat again got under way and pounded through the heavy ice in Detroit river out into Lake Erie. Captain Smith was undismayed by the great expanses of ice fields and the crippled craft was carefully forced ahead. Buffalo harbor was made without a serious accident and all hands reported well.

The expense of this down trip will not end until the steamer is in drydock. The big steam pumps, costing the underwriters $50 a day, will have to be kept going lest the steamer sinks at the elevator dock. As the cargo is removed great timbers will have to be inserted in the hold to prevent the bottom of it giving away.

The damaged grain will have to be removed and sold for what it will bring. And when the steamer is docked the repairs will have to be made. This repair bill will be very heavy.

Every item of expense connected with the downward trip is large. The wrecking tugs which went to the steamer's assistance in Lake Superior cost $350 and $2[illegible] per day from the time they left Detroit. The men who jettisoned the cargo received from 75 cents to $1 an hour for their work. The big lighter at Detroit cost $50 an hour. The ferryboats used to break a channel through the lower Detroit river cost $1,000 a day each.

In addition to this was the expense for fuel and extra provisions, as well as the steam pumps, which have been going constantly since the vessel started from Houghton. There are few wrecks of recent years which have been so costly.

BOSTON TEA PARTY.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—The memory of David Kennison, last survivor of the "Boston tea party," was honored today by the unveiling of a huge boulder-monument in Lincoln Park. The stone occupies a position near the spot where Kennison was buried in 1852 in what was then the city cemetery of Chicago.

The cememonies attending the unveiling were conducted by the Sons of the Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution and Daughters of the American Revolution, which societies are the donors of the monument. The boulder was secured in Northern Wisconsin by Henry Dudley, chairman of the joint committee of the societies that desire to perpetuate the name of Kennison. It is seven feet in length, about four feet in breadth and stands three feet above the ground and weighs several tons. A bronze plate upon it bears the names of the societies and the date of Kennison's death, which occurred in the 116th year of his life.

CHINESE RUSHING IN.

San Francisco, Dec. 21.—Chinese laborers are rushing into Canada by the hundreds and on every steamer from the Orient they are arriving here en route to British Columbia. The cause of the sudden influx into Canada lies in the fact that the Canadian govenment recently enacted a law by which every Chinaman landing on British soil after January 1st will be compelled to pay a head tax of $500. Under the present law the Chinese are only required to pay $5.

The steamer Doric, which recently arrived here from the Orient, brought 8[illegible] Chinese who were immediately shipped to Victoria. The Japanese liner Nippon Maru, just arrived, brought 89 Chinese and the Onfa carried 149, all of whom are in transit to Canada.

Gen. Douglas Dead.

Hagerstown, Md., Dec. 19.—General Henry Kyd Douglas, "Stonewall" Jackson's chief of staff during the civil war died at his home in this city last night. A general failing in health, including mental trouble, was the cause of his death. He was 63 years old. His sister, Mrs. Beckenbaugh, and her son and daughter are the only survivors. General Douglas never married.

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Keynotes of Harmony

Wednesday.

It is not by any means the people who have had the greatest trouble that grow old the fastest. If trouble serves to arouse the higher powers of the soul it results in a sense of independence and mastery which brings strength and youth.

Thursday.

Life will not set us any task beyond our strength, nor will it ever demand of us bricks without straw.

Friday.

If we could only see our daily trials as they will appear to us a little farther on the road, we would greet them with a buoyant and boisterous welcome instead of cowering and groaning with alarm.

Saturday.

The largest attainments are not possible while we paralyze ourselves with doubt of our abilities.

Sunday

Every man is the Supreme Being of his own life. No good or evil can come to him except as he makes it possible.

Monday.

There is no such thing as a rational melancholy. It is purely selfish impulse. Service is its sovereign remedy.

Tuesday.

When we have recovered the lost trail of a spiritual purpose it leads us out of the shadows of the passing day and into the shine of the eternal years.

—CHARLES B. NEWCOMB.

LISTEN TO THE CALL OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

EMILY S. BOUTON

"Our century has a host of things to do, bold things, noble things, tedious things, difficult things, enduring things. It has only a hundred years to do them in, and two of these are gone already. We must be up and bestir ourselves."

So writes David Starr Jordan in a little book which he has named The Call of the Twentieth Century. He shows the need of good, strong, unafraid men and women to carry out the purposes and shoulder the responsibilities that the swiftly moving years with their multiplying changes have brought to them. Great problems such as have never faced humanity in what we know as the historical era are waiting to be solved. And these do not concern one people alone, but all the nations of the world to a greater degree than ever before.

A great deal is said today about the unity of life, and such unity is, indeed, a basic truth, but in no preceding century has it been made so evident and demanded such a practical consideration. It is no longer only a metaphysical concept, but something real and tangible. Scientific inventions have made the far away East with its teeming millions, our next door neighbor, to be thought of, and her interests guarded, as such a relation demands.

A wonderful contrast indeed is there in the present thought of distances and that of comparatively only a few years ago. Even the grown-ups regarded Asia and Africa with the same sort of feeling that the child has today when he begins to study geography. At the beginning of the nineteenth century and for years thereafter, a few hundred miles were a greater barrier to communication than the great stretches of the oceans are now. Well do I remember my mother's stories of the weary weeks of her father's first trip from Connecticut, to what were then the unknown wilds of the Lake region, but which now are within less than a day's ride apart each from the other.

The great world has grown small, while our horizon has expanded, until there are no more unknown or mysterious lands or strange peoples. "We suffer from the miasma of the Indian jungles; we starve with the savages of the harvestless islands; we grow weak with the abused peasants of the Russian steppes, who leave us the legacy of their grippe. The great volcano which buries far off cities at its foot, casts its pitying dust over us. It is said that through the bonds of commerce, common trade, and common need, there is growing up the fund of a great bank of human kindness, no genuine draft on which is ever left dishonored."

All this has come because the earth has shrunk "within our grasp" by means of the steamships, the railroad, the telephone, the telegraph. With this neighboring of all peoples, has widened our responsibilities, not only those of the nation at large, but of the individual as well. The nineteenth century carried away with it every possible excuse for living to ourselves because the door into the homes and life of all people now stands always ajar.

Mr. Jordan's paper fitly addresses the young men of the Twentieth Century, but the Century's call is not to them alone. It speaks to women who are the mothers and teachers of the children. For it is the latter upon whom the glory, the illumination, the accomplishment of its years, must depend. It is largely the mothers, first alone, and later with the help of the teachers, who must give direction and force to the growing character of the boy and girl that they may be fitted for the enlarged duties of the future. Never was there a time when greater vigilance—a vigilance united with love—was needed in the home and school, in both of which woman should naturally have the larger power.

Almost the same qualities which the Twentieth Century calls for in men, it also calls for woman to possess, and they may all be summed up in the one thought—a striving toward the high ideals which it has brought. These demand in every walk of life, of men and women individually and collectively alike, a strenuous adherence to duty; a generous consideration of the rights and needs of "neighbors near and far;" a broad tolerance that gives respectful heed to the honest opinions of others; and a consistent devotion to right action that never weakens. Such men and such women can only be the product of a training for which those upon whom it rests today are responsible.

One of the most vitally important things in connection with this training, which in fact lies at the root of the whole matter, is the leading of the thought to the best of everything with which it has to deal. "It was my duty to have loved the highest." But how is the boy or the girl to know the "highest" unless their faces are turned thitherward by those who stand before them as their guides? To keep the ideals of the young pure, is, I grant, no easy task for the "corrosion of vulgarity spreads everywhere." Even into the homes it comes in some form or another, and only the most watchful care, the most strenuous effort, can prevent the poison from taking effect. When children see that parents, that teachers, that friends are satisfied with less than the best in anything, their own ideals are sure to be lowered. And so it is well for us all to stop and think each day whether we are placing before those who look to us for guidance, the best and purest in our action that we are capable of reaching.

The man who will utter profane or vulgar words in the presence of his children, who will tell an indelicate story which degrades womanhood before his boys, has a weak conception of duty. He is far from hearing the Call of the Twentieth Century. So, too, with the mother who forgets to make the dignity and sacredness of motherhood a living force in her family.

We can all see, then, that in this beginning of what may be called the New Time, so changed are conditions, that upon each one rests an enlarged responsibility, that of living closer to a high ideal, the very highest of which we are capable. Perhaps nothing expresses better what is demanded of each one of us than the words which follow:

"Today is your day and mine; the only day we have, the day in which we play our part; what our past may signify in the great whole we may not understand, but we are here to play it, and now is the time. This we know: it is a part of action and not of whining. It is a part of love, not cynicism. It is for us to express love in terms of human helpfulness."

Loyalty to this high ideal will be the best possible answer to the insistent call of the Twentieth Century.

The Cozy Corner

SHE HAS BEEN A-VISITING.

The reason for my delay in availing myself of the Cozy Corner privileges that have been granted me, is that I went a-visiting.

I came to this spot in the Blue Ridge mountains over thirty years ago and having helped to make a home out of the wilderness, is it any wonder that I am much attached to it? Is it any wonder, when the pine trees near the house, and the waterfall near by are always singing to me, and calling to me when I go away, that I am always glad to return to my home?

My neighbors are pleasant to live among, and most of them are of the same persuasion as the "Dr." in the way of politics.

It is strange to me that so many people seem to think that it only lies within our power to complain of our lot in life, instead of making the most of its possibilities, as suggested by a leading article on this page in a recent number of The Blade. Surely the thought there expressed will be helpful to many despondent ones.—"Seven X."

WEARY AND WORN; WHAT SHALL SHE DO?

I have often thought I would like to enter the Cozy Corner where all seem happy and cheerful, though I can do nothing but sit still and think of discouragement while listening to these other women who write such comforting letters, but if I may have a seat beside the sister of "the sad story," I will tell you of my life.

I am the mother of seven children—two living and five who are "at rest." The first years of my married life were very happy, as is usually the case, the "head of the family" taking care of and spending the money. Before many years we found ourselves bankrupt and penniless, from various misfortunes, but we were still surrounded by friends. Next it was thought best for us to emigrate to a newer country, where we arrived late in the fall, among entire strangers and with only the star of hope to guide us.

Then it was that the second in the household affairs took up the reins of government in the endeavor to supply the needs of the family, and save the little craft from shipwreck.

I went forth among the great army of industrial workers, doing whatever honorable work presented itself. We made a living, saved some and in a few years were once more able to purchase a small home.

I do not claim to be the head of the family, but I do oversee all of the income and outgo, do all the buying, making and making over—often longing for a relative who would give me a garment to make over. We have but one purse, and there is no division among us, for "the house divided against itself must fall."

We have all lived at home working and saving for the "rainy day," and have been able to educate the children, but now at the age of fifty years, I am a broken down woman, almost a nervous mental wreck.

Dear sisters, "Lil" and "Laura," I enjoy your bright and happy letters, but how can a world-weary mother sing of "Endless Joy" and "Rest for the Weary" when she has no share in such things? World weary? Yes, weary of it all and only waiting for the Master's call when I can gather my few empty sheaves and gladly go where He points the way, fearing not, since most of my loved ones have gone that way before me.

With a heavy heart I will say goodbye to you, wishing that some one could show me how to keep the light of love burning brightly in spite of discouragements.—"A Mother."

POLLY'S WISH.

Eight children there are in the farmhouse,
All healthy and happy and bright,
And now in a merry circle
They sit 'round the evening light.

Rude plenty is theirs in abundance,
Enough, but with little to spare;
And in the work the farmstead
They each have an equal share.

In a city large their father's friend
Dwells in most sumptuous style,
And each, in turn, has visited
And tarried with him awhile.

They are now discussing their visits,
And that which pleased them most
In that splendid month of sojourn
With their generous city host.

Each, in turn, they wish for the mansion,
The horses, the servants, the plate—
The pictures, the books, the music—
Each wish shows some leading trait.

Then Polly solemnly shakes her head—
She is cuddled in mamma's lap—
"You are breaking the 'mandments, but I wish I had
Their grandmuvver wiv a cap."
—Polly's Mother.

SOME MAIL SUGGESTIONS.

These suggestions are too late for this Christmas, but they will apply equally well next season. They are taken from a circular sent out by the postoffice department at Washington.

Don't mail a letter or package until you are sure the address is correctly written thereon; don't write the name of your own state or city when you mean some other; this is a very frequent mistake. If you are in doubt as to the proper office to which your letter should be addressed, or what is the proper amount of postage, ask the postmaster. Don't forget that it is unlawful to send merchandise rolled up in a newspaper, unless you pay merchandise postage instead of that charged for newspapers. Be sure to write your address on the outside of a letter package, so that it may be returned in case it cannot be delivered. Don't trust to the fact that you are "an old citizen," but have your correspondents notified of any change in your address; also notify the postoffice authorities in your city of such change.

Don't do packages up in such a manner that the wrapper will easily come off, nor seal them up so the contents may not be examined by the postoffice officials, unless you pay letter postage on them. Don't accuse the department of carelessness and fraud, until you are sure you have fulfilled your part of the work, and don't mark a parcel or letter to be "delivered in haste" unless you put a special delivery stamp on it, for it will do you no good as the mail matter is attended to as rapidly as possible anyway.

And do not wait until the last minute before you send packages for Christmas; mark them not to be opened until the day, if you please, but send them in plenty of time, remembering that there is always double duty for the poor letter-carrier to perform this season of the year.

CHRISTMAS.

Let not the hearts whose
Sorrow cannot call
This Christmas "merry"
Slight the festival.
Let us be merry that
May merry be,
But let us not forget
That many mourn.
The smiling Baby came
To give us glee,
But for the sorrowing was
The Savior born.

Fasten a line in your bathroom, over the tub, or near it, and on this hang your wrinkled gowns, skirts or jackets. Fill the tub with boiling water, close the door of the room, and in an hour look at these garments and you will find that the wrinkles are all gone.

FOR NEW YEAR'S CALLERS

Cornstarch Cake.

Cream together one half cupful of butter and one cupful of sugar; add one-half cupful of sweet milk, one-half cupful of corn-starch, one and a half cupfuls of flour, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and a little salt. Last, fold in the stiffly beaten whites of three eggs.

This is an inexpensive yet excellent cake to serve with coffee or ice cream.

Pork Fruit Cake.

(Requested by Mrs. E. E. H.)

Chop fine, one and one-fourth pounds of clear fat, salt pork, and pour over it one quart of boiling water. Add two cupfuls of brown sugar, one cupful of molasses, one teaspoonful of soda, one tablespoonful each of cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg and allspice, one pound of raisins chopped, one pound seeded currants, one-fourth pound sliced citron and four well-beaten eggs. Mix well, and stir in, a cupful at a time, five large cupfuls of flour, or enough to make an ordinary cake batter. Bake this quantity in four, medium sized cake tins for one hour in a moderate oven. When cold, wrap in paraffine paper and place in a tin box, and this cake will keep fresh a year.

MGR
DO ALL THE GOOD YOU CAN
IN ALL THE WAYS YOU CAN
TO ALL THE PEOPLE YOU CAN
OBJECT—IMPROVEMENT.
MENTAL, MORAL AND SOCIAL

For a bit of pleasant reading on Christmas Day, we have this from our student—"Queen Saba":—"While on a bicycle trip this last autumn, through the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Kentucky, I tarried a few days in Cincinnati, and in the splendid library of that city I came upon the pretty story of "Aucassin and Nicollette." Sweet, and dainty, and glorious in its expression of its simple love, it comes to us from the past of the 12th century, a beautiful song-story, fresh and interesting as a flower.

A youth—Aucassin—"within a garden of Beaucaire," learns to love a maiden—Nicollette—who was brought as a slave to his father's estate, in her infancy and given to one who reared her in his family as his own. The parent of Aucassin is a stern man, and refusing to allow his son to marry so far beneath his rank, he lays plans to have Nicollette imprisoned in order that his son may think her dead, or gone away. Her disappearance causes much comment, but Aucassin refuses to be comforted and mourns into the night—

"Star that steals from out the night,
Spark among the moonlight set,
Smiling on me from thy height,
Sure thou hast my Nicolette."

He is valiant in battle afterwards, but refusing to give up Nicollette, his father has him imprisoned. One night as he is lamenting her loss, Nicollette, escaped from her prison bars, hears him and makes her presence known. They commune together until the approach of the watch compels her to flee for her life, over the castle walls, through the deep ditch and into a great forest beyond.

When at length Aucassin is released, he goes, in deep dejection, on a hunting expedition into this forest and, by chance, finds her there. As she would be killed if discovered by the people in the castle, they flee away together and he answers her query as to their destination thus:

"Sweet, I reck not of its end,
Sith the goal I little heed,
And as little mark the way.
Over hill or over heather,
So we do but fare together
Other trouble will not borrow."

They reach the ocean strand, but are taken by pirates and again separated. In the course of years she is brought to her father's court where she is recognized as the long lost princess. But she is not content and starts out to find the country of Aucassin. He, after many dangers, reaches home safely to find his father dead and himself the ruler of the land.

"He, in wonted ease again,
Musing of his Nicolette;
Early days of love recalling,
Love so true, so quickly fleeting;
Days that he can ne'er forget—
Days he will for aye regret."

Effectually disguised by a blackening preparation of herbs, Nicollette sees Aucassin and learns that he is still true to her memory. At last their misfortunes are at an end and as there is now nothing to hinder their union, she removes her disguise and discloses her true identity and title to him.

Then, "you may think how he caressed her," and, of course, being familiar with the ways of story tellers then, as now, you will know that they were married, and ever after, through long years, their lives were filled with peace and happiness. And, summed up briefly thus to the end, in the famous little volume of Aucassin and Nicollette do the old French writers—

"Speak they, sing they, tell they the tale," of the true love that cannot be quenched by any amount of opposition.—"Quien Saba," W. Va.

A nice, long gossipy letter from our Canadian friend, completes out list for today, and we will be at liberty to engage in the Christmas festivities that are awaiting each of us:

As I am that "Star" that Miss Prudence so kindly invited to "shine often," I have come to do the best I can. Not being a very bright star, I may not be able to give you much light on any subject, but we can all, like the stars above, do our best in the stations where God has placed us.

I am a dressmaker, and so hope to be great friends with "Maud," of N. Y. I could exchange some funny stories with her, from my experiences this side of the line. I meet many very nice people in my work, as we have both American and English customers as well as Canadians. One of my friends is a little girl, 14 years of age, who does most of her own sewing, and it is really a great pleasure to me to help her by showing her the "tricks of the trade" that make her work lighter.

Winter is here in earnest; the Saskatchewan river is full of ice, and you ought to see the queer garments worn by the Russians, Galicians and Daukpobors. The men wear leather hoods with fur around the front, and sheepskin coats made with the woolly side in.

The women wear heavy boots with long tops, short dresses and such beautiful shawls over their heads, both summer and winter. I often think what pretty table covers those shawls would make. These people are immigrants, and I may some time tell you some interesting facts in regard to their habits.

"Oregon Bach" has been very quiet of late; I wonder if he is doing his winter's sewing now that he cannot work so much out of doors? There is a great deal to be told on the question of platonic friendship, and I shall be interested in the pros and cons given. "Blade Student," you have learned a most valuable lesson, and possess a priceless jewel if you have the faith and trust that will enable you to say and feel, at all time: "I know His promises are true."

"Jolly Spinster," your "poor parson" might have heard "some other noise," and mistaken it for a call to preach, but Satan camps close to a minister's tent, just as he does to any of us, and we can not tell what his temptations are, nor how hard that minister tried to resist them, and at this Christmas time we all feel inclined to be very charitable to the faults of others.

With Christmas greetings to all, I will say goodbye.—"Star," Canada.

Miss Prudence is in receipt of a small picture of "our Occasional Correspondent"—would that the "occasions" were not so few—Robert S. Walker, and regrets that it cannot be copied for your benefit. Speaking of pictures, do you not think we should have more of them in our column during the coming year? It would be very nice if we might have each chapter of the new story illustrated with the author's picture, now wouldn't it?

A good story by "Bro. Jonathan" will be a feature of the New Year's number, and as we hope for the first installment of our story from "Olive Branch" during the early part of January, we have much to look forward to in addition to the pleasant letters from others.

Banner Puzzlers

For November.

New Work—Hawkeye.
Solutions—U No Hoo.

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was a novelist and humorist, born at Landport, in Hampshire, February, 1812. In 1836 he first gave evidence of his talent in a series of essays of a lively nature, and from that time until his death, which occurred June 9, 1870, he produced numerous novels, each one intended to bring before the public eye some evil existing in the prevailing laws and customs of the land. It was said of him that he might at times be wrong, but could never be accused of want of honesty of purpose. Neither could partisanship be laid to his charge, except that he was always for the rights of the poor. His sarcasm was of a peculiar character; too good-natured to sneer, and with eyes that, in spite of their indignant fire, never lost sight of the ludicrous side of things; his style was mocking argument. No prose writer was ever more quotable, or more quoted than he. He was engaged in several journalistic ventures, and twice visited the United States. At the time of his death he was at work on a novel, which he left uncompleted. A partial list of his "dream-children" is presented in the Column today.

2.—NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

I am composed of 21 letters; my 14, 9, 18, 13, 2 is a cheerless tract of country; my 4, 11, 19, 3 is the innermost part of anything; my 5, 11, 7, 8, is a stone or boulder; my 1, 6, 20, 18, 12 was a giant of mythology; my 21, 17, 18, 10, 16, 15, 12 is an unconverted savage. My whole was one of his best Christmas stories.

3.—CHRISTMAS BELL.

```
          O
        X O X
        X O X
      X X O X X
      X X O X X
      X X O X X
    X X X O X X X
  X X X X O X X X X
X X X X X O X X X X X
```

1.—A consonant.
2.—A very useful article.
3.—Full of moisture.
4.—Clear, transparent.
5.—Continued pains.
6.—One who proclaims the orders of the court.
7.—Important part of the house.
8.—Important part of The Blade.
9.—To build upon or above.

Centrals give the name of another of his Christmas stories.

4.—ANAGRAMS.

1.—V. Benky caged Tom.
2.—Big Henry told Jona. P. Deen.
3.—Dirty Bach bit Tom Cantin.
4.—Dear, cool, Mary Seng!
5.—Grand fun at Flocket!
6.—Ben Carr, tell Emma B. Dupha.
7.—D. W. Edgar may find Daniel.

Anagrams contain the names of 14 of his characters, in pairs.

5.—QUERY.

Who can give in the fewest possible words the "bones" of that Christmas story of his, which closes with these words: "Lord, keep my memory green!"

6.—QUOTATION.

Which one of his characters offered this Christmas toast: "God bless us every one!"

Twelfth set in Competition.

Answers to Puzzles of Dec. 10.

1.—J. P. Joule.
2.—A bought 20 oranges at 1 cent; B, 15 at 1 and 1-3 cents; C, 12 at 1 and 2-3 cents; D, 10 at 2 cents. (See Chat.)
3.—Words forming double acrostic: Freytag, radiata, Boabdil, Abishai, chervil, oxytone, non-sibi. Primals—Fr. Bacon. Finals—Galilei.
4.—Josephine Pollard.
5.—Fabricius was the Roman consul who told the king of Epirus that: "Poverty with a good name, is better than wealth."
6.—Bacon said: "Testimony is like an arrow shot from a long bow; the force of it depends on the strength of the hand that draws it. Argument is like an arrow shot from a cross-bow, which has equal force though shot by a child."

Chat.

The solution given by the author to the problem answered today is:

Statement.—The quotient of the cube root of the product of the given quantities, divided by the given product of any group, will give the value not contained in that group.

Solution.—Cube root of the product of the fractions in given problem is 40-9, the product of all the quantities; 40-9, divided by 2 and 2-9, equals D's value per orange; 40-9, divided by 2 and 1-3, equals 1 and 2-3, C's value per orange; 4-9, divided by 3 and 1-3 equals 1 and 1-3, B's value per orange; and 40-9, divided by 4 and 4-9, equals A's value per orange. Now, our values are in relation one to the other as 3, 4, 5 and 6, of which 60 is the least common multiple; 60, divided by 3, equals 20, the number A must purchase; 60, divided by 4, equals 15, B's purchase; 60, divided by 5, equals 12, C's purchase, and 60, divided by 6, equals 10, D's purchase.

The last of the Competition sets appears in the Column today. Pupils are urged to send in their votes as early as possible, as the prize to be given the successful competitor should be awarded during the first part of January.

Prizes will also be given in January to the Puzzlers having the best record during the year for new work used, and solutions sent in.

There has been some criticism concerning certain sets used in the Competition, because they were not what is usually called "regular." The sets for October 29 (Hallowe'en), November 26 (Thanksgiving), and the Christmas set, given today, come under the head of "specials," and are much more difficult to arrange than the regulars, so should be given the same consideration as the others, although they lack the "arithmetical."

The boys and girls who "toed the line" in the 'Cademy this morning are: G. Flora, Mrs. H. Larned, J. W. Jones, W. P. E., Helen, Perry Cross, and Mrs. Jas. E. Willson.

G. Flora, the Schoolmistress was very glad to see you again after your long absence.

Mrs. H. Larned, you missed that time, but never mind that!

J. W. Jones, come often.

W. P. E., the paper you speak of has probably reached you before you read this.

Helen, you are certainly a good scholar to make out that solution.

Perry Cross, glad to see you so frequently.

Mrs. Jas. E. Willson, good girl; good lesson; come again.

THE PRESIDENT'S CHRISTMAS TURKEY

The President is more lucky than some people. His Christmas turkey is given to him free of charge. To be sure, the Chief Executive doesn't get out of paying a Christmas turkey bill, for he buys a fat bird as a present for every one of the men employed at the White House, and there are upwards of half a hundred of these—clerks, messengers, ushers, stenographers and other assistants to the Chief Magistrate, to say nothing of stablemen and house servants, but, for all that the President buys turkeys wholesale, he is not obliged to lay out any money for the feathered champion which is served at his own table.

The President's Christmas turkey is furnished by Horace Vose, of Rhode Island, and this is the thirtieth year that he has sent a choice fowl as a present to the highest official in the land. He started when President Grant was in the White House, sending the hero a bird that weighed thirty-six pounds, and he has kept up the practice ever since of sending his annual contribution to the White House table regardless of the politics of the man at the head of affairs. Each year Mr. Vose forwards to Washington by express a box containing his biggest and best turkey, and promptly each Christmas there is received at the postoffice at Westerly, where he receives his mail, one of the plain envelopes, bearing no postage stamp, but simply the magical words "White House," and enclosing a nicely worded note of thanks for his kindness in remembering the President.

THE PRESIDENT'S CHRISTMAS TURKEY AND HORACE VOSE, THE MAN WHO RAISED IT.

THE BEST GIFT OF ALL.

We heard a sob in the silent night,
Tommy and Susie and I;
At first we thought it was Santa Claus,
But why should old Santa cry?
And then we knew it was mother's voice,
And father was whispering low
In a kind and soothing sort of way,
She seemed to be crying so.

We couldn't help hearing what they said,
And it made us all feel bad,
For father complained that the times were hard,
And he seemed despondent and sad;
And mother was saying, "No new dolls,
And no little yearned for toys—
O John!—just to think of a Christmas Day
With no gifts for our girls and boys."

It sounded so sad to hear her cry
And speak so on Christmas Eve,
When every one is supposed to be glad,
And no one's supposed to grieve,
That we huddled close and planned and planned
To cheer her on Christmas morn,
For all the world should be happy, they say,
On the day the Christ Child was born.

So at dawn of day, when mother came,
Smiling at us through her tears,
We hid our empty stockings away
And gave her three hearty cheers,
Then Joe stepped up and kissed her and said:
"We've got a surprise for you,
And it's just a promise that we will make
To behave as you want us to:

"To study our lessons, the coming year,
And, mother, we'll surely be
Good little women and good little men,
We promise you honestly."
When mother heard all our good resolves,
She seemed so pleased that we almost cried.
'Tis queer how you sometimes can be so glad,
And yet be tearful inside.

And father stood there so very proud,
As he smiled upon each one,
That were as happy as we could be,
For giving is lots of fun;
And mother said, in her gentle way,
Giving to each one a kiss:
"There's many a mother who'd envy me
Such a beautiful gift as this."
—From Success.

A CHRISTMAS GIFT THAT WENT A-BEGGING.

George Washington Jones, a little colored boy, was the "Christmas Gift That Went A-Begging," the story of which is told in a pretty book by Mrs. Ruth McEnery Stuart. His grandfather before he died used to tell him how he was given when a little boy to a beautiful young mistress for a Christmas present. Little George concluded, that being all alone in the world, he would offer himself as a Christmas gift to some "fairy lady" who would be sure to be glad to have him. The following is a chapter from his adventures while he was trying to give himself away:

It was a lovely Christmas day, warm with a sweet flower-scented breeze from the gardens along Prytania street—everybody in New Orleans knows about Christmases like this—and when the Christmas gift started down between the handsome houses that face the street on either side, he held his head high, but his heart thumped so that he panted a little. There was a big house somewhere, with two lions of stone guarding the front steps. If he could find this place today, he would ask if a yellow-haired lady who played on a gilt harp lived there, and, if so, he would make his bow and his speech—and the thing would be done.

While he was thinking of this and saying to himself, "I wonder do dem rock lions think I be a-skeered of 'em," there came out upon the porch of one of the fine houses a lovely young lady, who began to gather roses from the trellis.

"I'll take you—harp or no harp," he said to himself, and hesitating just a minute to get a good breath, he reached up and pulled the gate bell. And at that moment exactly, she disappeared in the door and a black woman answered his ring.

"Huccome you foolin' wid dat bell, you sassy nigger?" she called angrily; so angrily that George decided that he wasn't sure whether he wanted to go there to live or not, and so he said:

"Do de young lady wha' liv heah play on de jew's-harp?"

He meant "gold harp," and indeed he thought he had said it. George was quite a performer on the lesser instrument, but his own heart-strings were trembling so that he was like a troubled little harp himself, and no harp ever knows more than to tremble when it is struck.

"Jew's-harp!" the woman repeated, contemptuously. "You's a passin' yourself in at the wrong gate. Git away fo'm heah! Scat!"

It was a long time before George found courage to stop again; but after a while an open gate tempted him and he walked blandly in, hoping that a fair-haired princess might herself open the door, which, indeed, she happened to do, but when she looked down at him and said: "Well?" in a freezing tone, he couldn't have made his speech to save his life.

"Well?" she repeated. "What do you want?"

And he answered rapidly: "I don't want nothin'- I was des a-passin' by an' I thought I'd drap in an'—an'—"

He had already turned to go, when he heard her say to a servant:

"Take him around to the kitchen. Maybe he's hungry."

This was not pleasant in the circumstances, and, although it was a most impolite thing to do, he called out over his shoulder as he neared the gate:

"I ain't no beggar! I come to fetch you a present—but I done changed my mind!"

At two other places the servants refused to show him in unless he would tell his errand, and as he would not offer himself to a mistress whom he had never seen, he had to go away.

All this took up time, and, besides, it used up courage, which was even more serious. When he had been walking an hour, he had not offered himself to anybody. And he kept walking. The streets were filling with people going to church, many of them beautiful ladies with kind faces, and he said to himself: "I sho' got a daisy lot to pick an' choose from."

He was getting pretty tired, and so, when, after a few more rebuffs, he rang another bell, he called out: "Want a boy in heah?" The Christmas gift part he could bring in afterward—if the lady suited.

But the gate slammed on the servant's "No!" and, shivering, he passed on. There was a sweet looking young lady ahead of him once, and he hastened to overtake her. "Lady," he said, at her elbow, "does you know air nice white 'oman wha' want a lakly boy—about my size—for a Chr——"

Before George could finish his sentence she had dropped a nickel in his hand and hurried on. The boy looked at the coin, and his eyes filled.

"Huccome dey all takes me for a beggar," he said aloud, "wid dis—dis white shirt on—an'—an' all dese clo'es?"

A real beggar, placarded "Blind" sat with a tin cup beside him against a fence near, and George, seeing that when he glanced at the tin cup it moved toward him, looked hard at it, and then at the nickel.

Then he looked at the fruit stand across the way, and when he presently passed down the other side there were five bananas in his hand—and then four—and by the time he reached the gate where the lions were, five empty banana skins lay along the gutter, and their recent fillings were being converted into courage, and the courage was fast permeating George Washington Jones; so that when he jerked the bell at the "lion gate," he nearly pulled it out, and a great old dog barked at him so suddenly that when the servant came to the gate there was no one there.

Nobody answered the next bell, or the next, and at the one beyond George called out to a servant:

"Ask de lady o' de house do she want a Christmas gif' of a handy little bo-o-o-y!" and as he said it, his lip quivered dangerously.

She didn't want one, either. And after this he offered himself frankly at all the best houses.

It was growing late, and his umbrella and bundle were getting heavier and heavier. Besides, if the mistresses matched the houses and the gardens, almost any one of them would do now.

But evidently boys were not in demand. Nobody wanted one—not even as a gift. At several houses the people laughed at the idea, and asked him a question or two, and gave him a cake or an apple. One lady did say that she might try him, if he were only a little bigger, whereupon George declared he was bigger!

"Yas'm I is bigger!" he insisted. "Hit's deze heah pants! Dey make me look little, dey got so much room in 'em!"

The sun was getting low when George turned out of the avenue of noble houses into a side street. His stomach was full of assorted gratuities, and it ached with the unfriendliness thereof. He did not know what else to do, and so he walked on. The neighborhood thinned out, and cheapened as he went, and after a while the heads of families sat in shirt sleeves on the front stoops, and some of them were colored.

At one gate there was an empty bench, and he sat down. Of course, it was foolish to come out here, but the very thought of ringing any more bells on the avenue sickened him. He looked out toward the swamp and back to the avenue, and two great tears came slowly into his eyes—and ran over.

And just then a fat, brown woman wearing a purple calico dress came out of the gate and sat beside him. And when she saw his tears and his bundle and his old shoes she took her apron and wiped his eyes and said, softly:

"Nemmine."

And George put his head in her lap and sobbed, while she smoothed his hair with her warm hand, and wiped her own eyes.

Dark comes suddenly on Christmas, and when, after a while, Sarah, the brown woman, walked into the house, with her arm around the boy, she lit her candle. Then she took off his cap and hung it up and laid his bundle on a little bed. The two must have talked it all out on the little bench at the gate, for they seemed to understand each other. After she lit the candle, she went presently and fetched a small tintype and put it in George's hand. It was the picture of a little black boy.

"Dis is him," she said, "befo' he was took sick." And then she added: "When I looked out an' saw yo' little legs hangin' under the bench, it seemed like he had come back to me. You favors him consid'ble—in the legs. Yo' folks must a' made you loney too soon."

"B-but he was a heap purtier 'n what I is," George stammered. And the black woman looking him over, said: "You'd look mighty diff'ent baby, git a handy 'oman aholt o' you—wid a few buttons—" And presently she added: "Dat boughten suit he's got on in de picture—I got it put away—it'd jes' about fit you, but, of co'se, less'n you was a mighty good boy—"

"I'm feared I ain't good enough—not fer dat," George replied, thoughtfully. "I sins awful sometimes. Des a while ago I sassed a white 'oman, caze I thought she scorned me wid her eye. An' den I see she was cross-eyed."

"Den you ought to tol' her dat you was sorry, boy."

"I would 'a' done it, but she up an' flung a brickbat at me. She was a Irish lady."

There were two at supper that night in Sarah's cabin, and when she went to set the table she hesitated some time before she took from the cupboard a little tin-plate with the alphabet pressed into its rim, and set it beside her own.

Notwithstanding the late lamented bananas and their hasty and disastrous burial, George ate heartily. It was a cozy little supper, and after it was over she and her small guest sat and talked as those talk who have always known each other. It was still early when she put him to bed—for she saw that he was very tired. He must have confided his whole plan to her, for while she tucked him in she was saying:

"Yes, I know de lady at de lion gate; she's lookin' for a little boy—to bresh de flies off'n her, an' hunt her spec's, an'—what dat you say? No, dey ain't no yo'ng misses in dat house. An' de ole lady she's mighty deef and religious. But she's lookin' for a hones' little boy widout no kin—and I know she'd take you in a minute. An' you could straddle de lions and play horsey on 'em, when you warn't busy—an' you'd have brass buttons, an' tote a silver tray—an' take in de ladies' visitin' tickets—an'—"

She leaned beside him on the bed now, and, remembering his little colic, she was rubbing her hand gently over his body as she spoke.

"An' ef you stays wid me," she continued, "you knows I takes in washin' an' you'd haf to help me lif' my tubs an' empty suds—an' tote clo'es back an' fo'th, too, sometimes. My little Joe, he was jes' as stiddy as a man. He could count change—an' tell time by de clock—but of co'se you'd learn all dat."

George did not answer right off, but presently he said: "I—I—I ain't dissipated, no ways—but I ain't sho' ef I'm stiddy or not, but—but I kin tell time. I got gran'daddy's silver watch—and I got his spec's, too. An' meybe dey mought suit yo' eyes—ef—ef—"

Neither one said anything for quite a while, and then the boy spoke again. "S'posen I was to stay wid you, right along, des so, what kin would you be to me?"

"You jes' be my little boy." And in a minute she added: "Didn't you take notice to dat little plate I give you to eat yo' supper out'n? He used to spell his name on dat plate, an' when I set it out for you, I say to myself: 'Ef he spells his titles out on it I'll take it for a sign from Heaven'—dat is, of co'se, ef you wants to stay."

For answer a thin, black arm came from under the cover and lay over the woman's shoulder, and had he not fallen under the mantle of sleep while she talked so long, into her ear would have come a faint whisper, "I gwine to stay."

"WHEN HE JERKED THE BELL AT THE 'LION GATE' HE NEARLY PULLED IT OUT."

LOOMIS' SPEECH.

He Made Public the Facts Regarding Panama Affairs.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The speech of Assistant Secretary of State Loomis last night, at the banquet of the Quill club in New York, in which he laid bare some pertinent facts regarding the attitude of Colombia toward the Hay-Perran treaty, was the subject of considerable gossip here today, and there was much speculation as to the effect it would have on the future course of General Reyes, the special envoy of Colombia now in Washington. When seen today Gen. Reyes admitted that he had read Mr. Loomis' address, but declined to make a statement.

"I am a diplomat," said he, "and it would ill become me to make any comment."

"We have no desire to annex Panama, and we have not done so," Mr. Loomis said in his address. "The President simply executed the will of the American people, with due regard to international law and rights. He was instructed by congress to secure a canal route on the Isthmus of Panama if possible. He waited until the adjournment of the Colombian congress, and gave the government of that country every opportunity to ratify the treaty or to propose some proper method looking to the ratification of a new treaty, and the Colombian congress, in utter bad faith, rejected the treaty and adjourned.

"When you recall Colombia's 'dog in the manger' attitude and the salient, dangerous, pressing exigencies of the situation which confronted this government upon the night of November 3, I think you may be glad that there was in Washington upon this truly fateful occasion a man who possessed the insight, the knowledge, the spirit and the courage to seize the opportunity to strike a blow, the results of which can be fraught only with peace and good to the whole world.

"One of the most significant and valuable results of our action in respect to Panama will be the wholesome object lesson and the enduring moral effect which our supremacy on the isthmus will bring to the eyes of certain people who are in sore need of instruction in the practice of peaceful pursuits and orderly administration.

"In these peaceful ways it is the desire of this government to Americanize the new world, and perhaps the old, but not by the power of the almighty dollar, not by the urgency of trade demands, not by any manifestation or display of force, but rather by the more potent and enduring means of the dissemination of those lofty civilizing agencies, those great principles, those fine ideals, those substantial virtues upon which our country was founded, and upon which it has continuously thrived and had its well being."

Gen. Reyes is still engaged in the preparation of the statement he will submit to the state department, and while refusing to disclose the nature of it, said that much of it will be devoted to an argument setting out the reasons why the United States should see to it that Panama shall assume her share of the Colombian debt. Gen. Reyes is uncertain when he will file this document with the department, but he thought it would be within the next few days.

At the instance of Secretary Moody, Brigadier General George F. Elliott, commandant of the marine corps, has issued orders for the formation of a new battalion of marines to be known as the Caribbean Sea Battalion. This battalion will be regularly attached to the Caribbean sea squadron, though its immediate destination is Colon. It will be assembled at Philadelphia as rapidly as possible, and the Dixie already has left Colon to return to that place with the new battalion.

Rear Admiral Goghlan, in a cablegram to the navy department, dated Colon, December 15, says that all is quiet on the northern coast. It is assumed from Admiral Goghlan's dispatch, that the Atlanta and the Mayflower have completed their reconnoiter, and that he is thereby enabled to give the department positive information regarding conditions on the northern coast.

CANADIAN TRADE.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Commerce between Canada and the United States shows a rapid gain both in the figures of the year about to end and in those of the decennial period which ends with the present year. The year's commerce with Canada, as shown by the figures of the department of commerce and labor through its bureau of statistics, will aggregate nearly 200 million dollars, against less than 100 millions in 1893. The increase occurs both in imports into the United States from Canada and exports from the United States to Canada. Our imports from Canada, which in 1893 amounted to only 34 million dollars, will in the present year reach about 55 millions. Our exports to Canada, which in 1893 were 57 million dollars, will in 1903 aggregate about 130 millions. Our total commerce of the United States in the calendar year 1893 were 1,652 million dollars, and in 1903 will aggregate about 2,460 millions. Thus the total commerce of the United States from 1893 to 1903 has increased about 50 per cent, while its commerce with Canada has more than doubled.

On the import side the increase in our purchases from Canada has been much more rapid proportionately than from other parts of the world. The total imports of the United States in 1893 were $776,000,000, and in the calendar year 1903 will aggregate about $1,000,00,000, an increase of about 30 per cent; while the imports into the United States from Canada meantime show an increase of about 60 per cent. The total exports from the United States, which in 1893 were $876,000,000, will, in 1903, approximate $1,460,000, an increase of 66 per cent, while in our exports to Canada the increase is about 125 per cent.

The above figures are for calendar years in all cases, and are necessarily estimates so far as they relate to the month of December, 1903.

Quite a Drop.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The Havelock (Neb.) postoffice has been relegated from the presidential to the fourth class.

Free to Men

MANHOOD IS NEVER LOST—MY PHILIPPINE REMEDY CURES NERVO-SEXUAL FAILURE IN ANY STAGE OR AT ANY AGE.

Send for FREE TRIAL and be Convinced.

My new and wonderful Philippine Restorative, well named VITALA, disproves all the old notions about lost manhood. The spark may be dimmed, but it never dies out entirely. I have confounded the medical world by a private home treatment that is absolutely sure and guaranteed to restore superb manhood, stop all unnatural weakening drains, and give full strength, manly size and vigor to the wasted and weakened parts. Thus far this remarkable formula has not once failed me, and I stake my professional renown that it positively cures sexual weakness at all ages and stages of the malady, quickly and forever. Do not fear or hesitate to send for this Free Trial. No matter what was the original cause of your weakness, whether from injury, sickness, early indiscretions, excesses, mental worry or physical overexhaustion, this remedy will redeem the worst cases, and bring back your health.

VITALA is without a doubt the most potent and powerful specific the world has ever known for sexual failure; purely vegetable and harmless it stands to-day the only recognized cure for weak men where the advanced stage of epilepsy, paralysis, consumption or insanity has not been actually reached. I fully believe in the glory of a manly man, and want every sad sufferer to reap the benefit of my discovery. Whoever may read these lines is welcome. A simple letter addressed to Doctor Ka Herg, Lock Box 681, Jackson, Mich., will bring the treatment to you free by return mail. There are no C. O. D. charges to pay now or ever, and no marks or advertisement on the plain sealed cover.

POSTAL PLUNDERERS.

The Steal of the Grafters a Very Large Total.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Plundering of the government to a far greater extent than had prevously been supposed possible is revealed in the full report of the investigation made by Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow, which has been made public. The report is long and goes into details, showing how the postoffice department ring raked off money right and left, amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

With Mr. Bristow's report is made public the report of Conrad and Bonaparte, appointed by the President to investigate the Tulloch charges against the administration of the Washington postoffice. This report is a severe arraignment of Perry Heath, and deplores the fact that many guilty officials will escape punishment under the statute of limitations.

The report speaks of profligate expenditure for Bundy time recorders and cites instances like Bay Shore, N. Y., where theye were used and where there were no employes except the postmaster and his assistant. Continuing, it states that Hugh McK. Landon, secretary of a pneumatic cancelling machine company, testified during the investigation that in this city in 1902, wher he came for orders, Beavers referred him to a clerk named H. Clayton Graff, as "the man to do business with," and that in a personal conversation Graff said: "You know none of us are here for our health. The government is not liberal in the matter of its salaries, and it costs much to live in Washington."

Edward S. Allen, now clerk at the Cleveland, O., postoffice, testified that reports he made on the merits of the Hampden cancelling machine were not satisfactory to First Assistant Postmaster General Heath or to Beavers and says he was plainly advised that it was Mr. Heath's desire that these machine be installed and the desire of Mr. Beavers "and the general" that he do less talking derogatory to the machine. He says he was forewarned of this by his brother, then chief clerk to the first assistant postmaster general, and thereafter, Allen testified, he simply installed machines and refrained from any comment. The machines proved worthless.

The report says that H. J. Truesdell, of Binghamton, N. Y., of the cancelling machine company, told inspectors that before the order of June 30, 1900, was given for 100 Doremus cancelling machines, 200 shares ($20,000 worth) of the stock of the company were transferred to First Assistant Postmaster General Heath, Heath promising to order not less than 300 machines at $225 each. In his affidavit Truesdell states that Green, a state senator of New York, told him he had made this agreement with Heath at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel one Saturday night. Truesdell further states that Green, at a subsequent date purchased back from Heath this stock.

The summary and conclusions of the report of Conrad and Bonaparte are as follows: "As a result of our inquiry in the 'Tulloch charges' and of the considerations hereinbefore set forth, we have the honor to report that, in our judgment:

"1. The discussion of the 'Tulloch charges' has revealed the existence of deplorable and greatly discreditable abuses during the years 1898, 1899 and 1900 in the Washington postoffice and the office of the first assistant postmaster general.

"2. These abuses involved conduct on the part of various public officials which was certainly often illegal and may have been sometimes criminal, but such offenses, if committed, were in all cases committed more than three years before we were ordered to investigate the 'charges' and, so far as we are clearly informed, more than three years before Mr. Tulloch's interview of May 1 last.

"3. The evidence laid before us suggests the possibility and even probability, but does not prove, that abuses may have continued both in the department and in the postoffice subsequently to the early summer of 1900, when we lose sight of them, and that in connection therewith criminal acts may have been committed within the period of limitations.

"4. The report of Inspector Crowell and the facts relating to the claim of Geo. W. Beavers above set forth indicate the possibility that similar conditions may have existed both within and beyond the period of limitations in the New York postoffice.

"5. The persons primarily responsible for the above mentioned abuses and the resulting scandals appear to have been Perry S. Heath, then first assistant postmaster general, and George W. Beavers, then chief of the salaries and allowance division, neither of whom is now in the service of the United States.

"6. Charles Emory Smith, late postmaster general; James P. Willett, late postmaster of Washington, now deceased; John A. Merritt, his successor in the said office and its present incumbent; Robert J. Tracewell, comptroller, and Henry A. Castle, auditor for the postoffice department, all appear to have shared in some measure their responsibilities.

"7. The employment of subordinates in postoffices about to become classified for the purpose of thus securing their admission without examination into the classified service was a practice in frauden legis and officials guilty of it thereby establishing their own unfitness for public employment.

"8. The employment of so-called 'laborers' to do 'classified work' was clearly illegal, and under the express directions of the civil service rules to be punished by dismissal from office.

"9. An agreement by any public officer with any person, whether in or out of the public service at the time, that the latter shall receive the emoluments of public employment under pretense of being employd without rendering any srvices to the goverment constitutes a conspiracy to defraud the United States, and, if followed by any overt act tending to its accomplishment by any of the parties, renders all of them responsible under the terms of the United States revised statute, section 5,440.

"10. The detail of Thomas W. Gilmer to different work of a lower grade and at a reduced compensation by F. A. Vanderlip, then acting secretary of the treasury, under all the circumstances attending it, was apparently unjust and oppressive and certainly disastrous to the public interest, since it would be generally and naturally understood by those cognizant of it as a punishment inflicted on a faithful public servant who had, by the honest discharge of his duty, incurred the enmity of active and influential politicians.

"11. While we express no opinion as to the propriety of Seymour W. Tulloch's removal from the office of cashier by Postmaster Merritt, the precipitancy and discourtesy shown by the latter in effecting this removal seem to have been without justification and tend to cast grave doubts upon the good faith of his explanations of the removal itself.

"We very respectfully recommend:

"1. That a thorough investigation be ordered if it has not been already ordered (a) of the administration of the Washington postoffice, (b) of the administration of the New York postoffice and (c) of the administration of the office of the first assistant postmaster general within the past three years.

"2. That a carefully chosen, small commission be appointed by the President to report a plan whereby the work of the offices of the comptroller and of the several auditors may be removed from all political, personal or other extraneous influences, the officials therein employed protected from injury through the enmities they may incur in the discharge of their duties and the competency and independence of all engaged in this branch of the government secured through their selection by free competition, promotion for merit only, and assurance of tenure during the continuance of fidelity and efficiency on their own part."

WHEN IT IS EFFECTIVE.

Washington, Dec. 21.—The secretary of the treasury has issued a circular letter of instructions to officers of the customs service and others interested in bringing into operation the treaty of reciprocity with Cuba, approved Dec. 11, 1902, and made effective by act of congress and the President's proclamation of December 17. 1903. The circular declares that the treaty becomes operative one minute after midnight December 27th inst.

GEN. MERRIAM'S REMARKS

Washington, Dec. 18.—Secretary Root today requested Brig. Gen. H. C. Merriam, retired to inform the department if he was quoted correctly in an alleged interview in Denver yesterday in which he is made to say that the President's appointment of Leonard Wood to be major general is very unpopular with army men and that such appointments tend to unsettle the army and injure its morale. The general was asked to make such explanation as he may deem proper.

COLOMBIAN TROOPS

Reported to Have Landed on Panama Territory.

Colon, Dec. 21.—Information has been received here that about one hundred Colombian troops have landed at the Island of Pines, northwest of Cape Tiburn, which is situated at the western entrance of the Gulf of Darien. The Island of Pines is in Panama territory, and is the only island along that coast which is wooded, peaked with mountains and also well watered, thus offering every facility for camping and being used as a base of observation.

It is significant in this connection that the United States auxiliary cruiser Mayflower left this harbor yesterday bound in the direction of the Island of Pines, to obtain confirmation of the report.

The United States gunboat Bancroft is still on that coast, in the vicinity of Nombre De Dios.

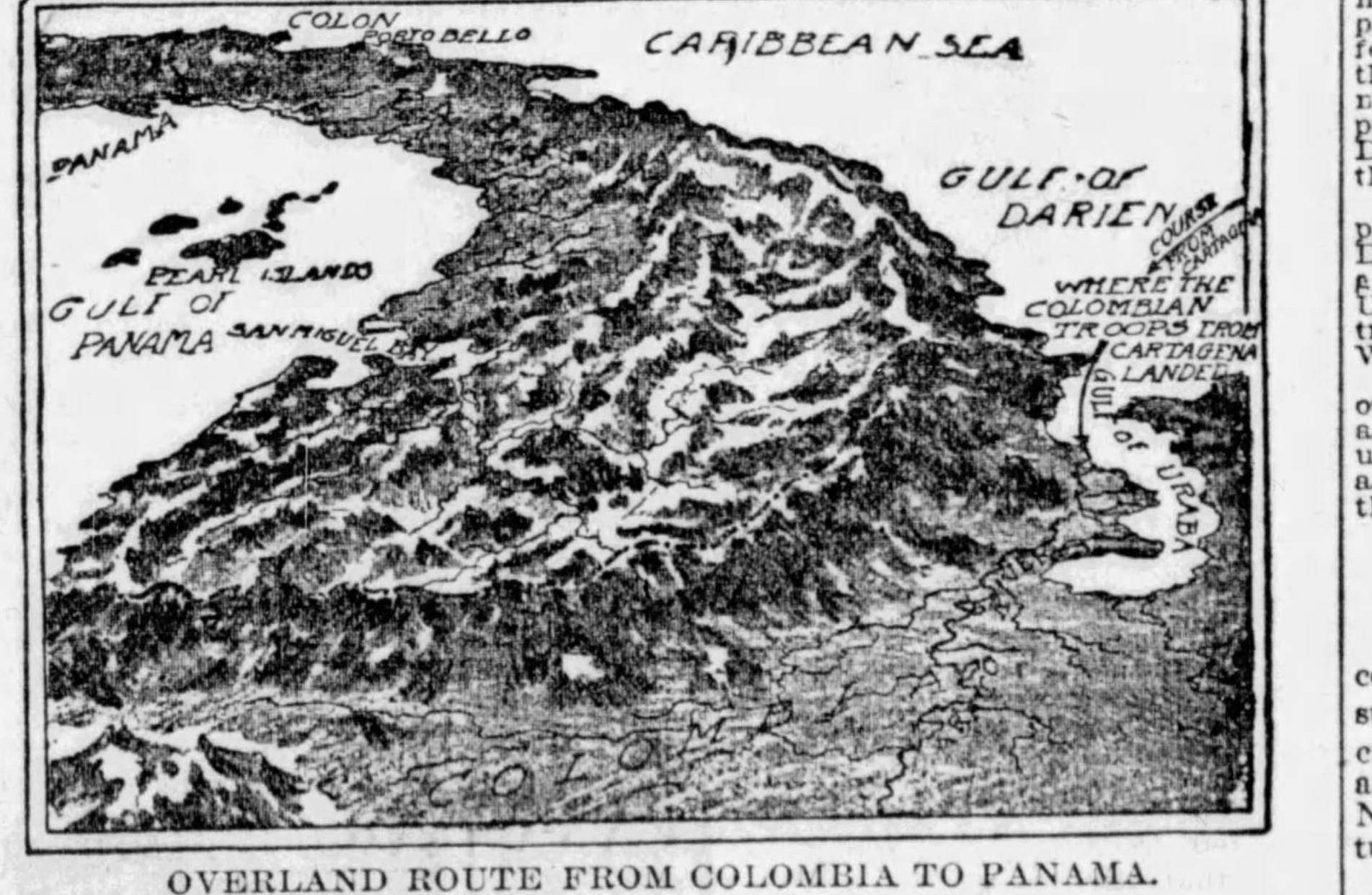
The United States cruiser Nashville has returned to Colon from Bocas del Toro.

Rear Admiral Coghlan has transferred his flag to the United States auxiliary cruiser Prairie.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Rear Admiral Taylor, chief of the bureau of navigation and executive head of the general naval board, today was in conference with Capt. John E. Pillsbury, assistant chief of the bureau; Capt. W. Swift, chairman of the general boards committee on the fleet; Commander Winslow and Lieutenant Belknap, of the bureau of navigation in the secret office of the chief of the bureau of navigation. Several cablegrams which arrived from Rear Admirals Glass and Coghlan over Sunday were taken up for consideration, and instructions in reply were prepared and submitted to Secretary Moody for approval. Nothing official regarding the conference was announced, except that it concerned the isthmian situation.

A long cablegram was received today from Rear Admiral Coghlan commanding the force of Colon in which he requested that cracker instead of bread be dispatched to the isthmus as the latter food moulds quickly in the tropical climate.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Under the impression that war is surely to occur between the United States and Colombia, the quartermaster general of the army has been besieged by railroad and shipping men desirous of transporting troops. This impression among shipping men exists to a considerable extent abroad and a number of offers have come to the department from foreign ship owners tendering their vessels as transports.



OVERLAND ROUTE FROM COLOMBIA TO PANAMA.

It was pointed out today that while the landing of marines on foreign soils occasions but little comment and is only an evidence of a disturbed condition of affairs, the embarkation of troops puts a different aspect on the situation. For this reason the navy will be permitted to continue to control affairs in isthmian waters, for the present at least, or until matters reach a stage necessitating the co-operation of the army.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Official confirmation has reached Washington of the landing of Colombian troops on the Island of Lis Pines, which lies close to the coast of Panama.

These troops number 80 and they have taken up a position on this high island with the intention of making paths through the jungles.

COLOMBIAN TROOPS

Preparing a Road for the Invasion of Panama.

Colon, Dec. 17.—The United States cruiser Atlanta, Commander William H. Turner, returned here last night from the Gulf of Darien. She discovered December 15 a detachment of Colombian troops, numbering really about five hundred men, but, according to their statements, totalling 1,500 or 2,000 men, at Titumati, on the western side of the gulf just north of the mouth of the Atrato river. The commander of the Atlanta sent ashore an officer, who conversed with the Colombians' commander. The latter protested energetically against the presence of American warships in Colombian waters, insomuch as war between Colombia and the United States had not been declared, and politely requested the Atlanta to leave the gulf, because it belonged to Colombia. Commander Turner ignored the request, but the Atlanta returned to Colon to report to Rear Admiral Coghlan.

The Colombians are clearly busy with protective and strengthening measures. Although they treated the Americans courteously they decidedly resented the presence of the Atlanta's landing party. The Colombian force was composed partly of the men landed recently at the Atrato river by the Colombian cruisers Cartagena and General Pinzon.

Early in the morning of December 15 the Atlanta sighted a small schooner in the centre of the Gulf of Darien and followed her to the western shore, where the schooner attempted to hide behind an islet. Lieutenant Harlan P. Perrill, of the Atlanta, was ordered to board her and thereupon a whaleboat was lowered and pulled towards the schooner. Through the courtesy of the naval officers the correspondent of the Associated Press accompanied the party in the whaleboat. It was found that the schooner had on board a hundred armed Colombian soldiers, commanded by Gen. Rafael Novo, who said Gen. Daniel Ortiz, commander-in-chief of the Colombian forces of the Atlantic and the Pacific, had a large camp a mile away, on the mainland. General Novo requested Lieutenant Perrill to land and confer with General Ortiz. After temporarily returning to the Atlanta Lieutenant Perrill went back to the schooner, which, in the meantime, had taken up a position off a beach within a small bay. Great excitement prevailed among the Colombians on the whaleboat's approach.

There were repeated cries of "Viva Colombia," and there was a sudden concentration of about 150 Colombian soldiers on the beach. For some moments the situation appeared dangerous and had the appearance of an ambuscade.

General Ortiz appeared on the beach when Lieutenant Perrill went ashore, the whaleboat in the meantime lying close to the beach. General Ortiz insisted that Lieutenant Perrill should fly the Colombian flag at the bow of the whaleboat, or lower the American flag at her stern, because she was in Colombian waters. Lieutenant Perrill replied that he did not have a Colombian flag and refused to lower the stars and stripes. General Ortiz did not insist upon his so doing, but he protested in writing against the presence of the Americans in Colombian waters. Lieutenant Perrill accepted the protest and conveyed it to Commander Turner, who handed it to Rear Admiral Coghlan on his arrival here.

During the conference with the Colombians ashore, Lieut. Perrill was surrounded by Gen. Ortiz's staff, while inland, a few paces, there was a semi-circle of armed sentinels. The beach in both directions was also lined by sentinels. Gen. Ortiz did not permit Lieut. Perrill to leave the point of the beach where he landed. While Perrill was awaiting the Colombian protest, First Lieutenant Edward B. Manwaring, commanding the marine guard of the Atlanta, rowed up in a cutter for the purpose of communicating with Lieut. Perrill, and to gain certain military information. Lieut. Manwaring went ashore and the cutter joined the whaleboat off the beach.

Lieut. Perrill returned to the Atlanta at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. Lieut. Manwaring, before returning, pulled on the cutter along the coast observing the Colombians' camp. Later in the day Gen. Ortiz requested the Atlanta to leave.

The Colombian camp appeared to be permanent, was well provisioned, and probably intended to be used as a base of operations.

Gen. Ortiz and others freely expressed the determination of Colombia to fight to the bitter end in case Gen. Reyes' visit to Washington is not successful, and Panama is not returned to Colombia.

Coming for More Marines.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The cruiser Olympia, flagship of Rear Admiral Goghlan, commanding the Caribbean squadron, left Norfolk today for Colon.

The cruiser Dixie left Colon today for Philadelphia, to take on board the battalion of marines being assembled at that city for service on the Isthmus.

To Protect Health of Marines.

Washington, Dec. 17.—In a cablegram from Rear Admiral Coghlan, commanding the naval force in Atlantic-Isthmian waters, which reached the navy department over night, the landing of the battalion of marines from the Prairie at Gorgon, is recorded. The battalion will go into camp at that place, the medical officers having reported that the health conditions there are fairly satisfactory. Gorgon is some distance above the sea level, and it is hoped the men will be free from tropical illness. The Dixie's battalion of marines have encamped at Empire. Care will be taken that all the American forces on the isthmus shall drink only distilled water, and the Prairie will be kept there for the purpose of distilling an adequate supply. In a cablegram from Rear Admiral Glass today, the situation on both sides of the Isthmus was said to be quiet and satisfactory.

Panama Prepares for Election.

Panama, Dec. 17.—With the view of maintaining good feeling during the elections on the isthmus, the provisional junta has just issued an address to the nation, signed by Messrs. Boyd, Arias and Arango.

The junta states that decree No. 25, issued December 12, and published December 14, convoking a national convention for January 15, in this city, makes it the duty of the members thereof to frame a constitution in accordance with the spirit of revolution, which took place November 3.

The address asks for the tolerance and general good feeling which have existed upon the isthmus since the date of the rebellion, and cautions the people to hold steadfast to their patriotic principles through the exciting times of the forthcoming election.

The junta's decree, fixing December 28 as the date for the election of representatives to the national convention has been received with enthusiasm in the towns in the interior of the republic. Th[illegible] s no doubt that the public opinion fav[illegible] the canal treaty with the United States and the candidacy of Dr. Amador for the presidency.

Expulsion of Gen. Castro.

San Francisco, Dec. 17.—The Pacific Mail steamer Barracouta just arrived here from Panama, transported General Demetrio Castro, of the Colombian forces, away from the seat of trouble to Punta Arenas, Costa Rica. His departure was rather sensational. When the new republic of Panama was proclaimed, Gen. Castro was requested to take the oath of allegiance. He refused and was ordered to leave the country. Failing to do so a squad of soldiers waited upon him and escorted him aboard the Barracouta, then about to sail. His landing at Punta Arenas was quiet.

Costa Rica Recognizes Panama.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Acting Secretary Loomis today received a cablegram from United States Minister Merry, at San Jose, Costa Rico, stating that the government of Nicaragua has recognized the new republic of Panama by appointing a consul at Panama City. Considerable interest attaches to this announcement, because of the doubtful state of feeling toward the new republic by the other nations of South and Central America, only two of which, Brazil and Mexico, have so far accorded recognition to Panama.

TROOPS MOVING

St. Petersburg, Dec. 18.—A traveler who has just returned from Manchuria says Russian troops are still moving night and day towards Port Arthur.

London, Dec. 18.—The Daily Mail's Kobe correspondent learns that at a conference of the elder statesmen of Japan endorsement was given to the government's determination not to recede from the demands on Russia concerning the far east formulated June 23 last. This indicates, says the correspondent, the rejection of Russia's reply, and he adds that the government will urge Russia to reconsider. This, however, does not necessarily mean that the negotiations have reached a hopeless stage, according to the correspondent.

A LONG CHASE.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 21.—After a chase of three thousand miles, extending from San Diego, Cal., to Norfolk and lasting from June 15, until Saturday, Thomas J. Blake, alias Ed. Hall, was arrested here accused of being a deserter from the navy and a murderer. Detective Ulysses S. Grant Bonner has been shadowing Blake since last June. He followed him from California to Missouri and made the arrest there. While being brought east Blake managed to escape. He was followed by Bonner to Norfolk and a second arrest was made here Saturday night, but Blake again escaped. He caught a train to Suffolk and was picked up by a constable there as being suspicious. Shortly afterward a telegraph warning was received from Bonner. The man was brought back to Norfolk and lodged in jail. Bonner refuses to tell of the murder he charges Blake with having committed.

SENATOR GREEN

Held to Answer in the Postal Fraud Cases.

Binghamton, N. Y., Dec. 18.—United States Commissioner Hall today handed down his decision in the case of State Senator George E. Green, of this city, charged with bribery and conspiracy to defraud the government in connection with the sale of time recorders and canceling machines. The defendant is held on all five indictments for trial in the city of Washington.

Judge Hall reviews at great length the evidence submitted by the government as to the money transactions between Senator Green and George W. Beavers, former superintendent of the supplies and allowance division of the postoffice department, holding that money was paid by Green to induce favorable action on the part of Beavers in the purchase of time recorders and that "the evidence discloses a suspicious activity on the part of Beavers in pushing the sale of the Doremus canceling machines for which a motive must have existed."

The evidence in the Doremus canceling machine case, the decision says, is not so full and complete as in the time recorder cases, owing to the "unexpected disappearance of Truesdell and Ida Crowell, said to have been important witnesses before the grand jury just when wanted for this hearing and by the fact that Manager Fish, of the Doremus machine company suffered so severely last winter on account of the scarcity of coal that he was obliged, as he testified, to burn all the old books and papers of his company to keep himself warm, regardless of their possible value as evidence, and that his fondness for neat looking account books led him to tear out and destroy a number of scratched stubs from the company's check book, which should have shown in whose favor the checks had been drawn."

In conclusion, Judge Hall says:

"The defense submitted all the five cases without offering any rebutting evidence.

"It is proper to say here that there is not the least suggestion in the evidence of these cases that the defendant ever benefited personally from these transactions beyond the additional profit from the increased sales accruing to him in common with the other stockholders of these two companies.

"The only questions to be determined by the commissioner from the testimony given in his examination are:

"First—Whether it appears from the evidence that the laws of the United States have been violated as charged in the complaints.

"Second—Whether there is probable cause shown to believe the defendant, George E. Green, guilty of the offenses alleged."

Commissioner Hall decides that the laws have been so violated, and that there is probable cause shown to believe the defendant guilty of the offenses alleged. He therefore directs that the defendant furnish bail in the sum of $4,000 for his appearance before the supreme court of the District of Columbia on the first day of the next regular term thereof.

Later in the day, Senator Green accompanied by his attorneys and United States District Attorney George B. Curtis, will go to Norwich, where Mr. Curtis will ask United States Judge Ray for an order transferring Green to the custody of the Washington officials.

Green's attorneys will ask for a writ of habeas corpus, which will be granted at once, and which will act as a stay until Judge Ray can review the evidence and the commissioner's ruling and decide the case.

THE COTTON MILLS.

Lowell, Mass., Dec. 19.—The great cotton mills of Lowell, will operate and sustain losses as long as possible without cutting wages or curtailing production, according to the statement by Franklin Norse, agent of the Lowell Manufacturing company. Mr. Nourse said:

"The cotton situation is the most serious the mills have encountered for a long time and I do not think anyone can predict the outcome. With such an advance in cotton and so little response in the prices of goods the indications point not only to no profits but to heavy losses. The natural remedy would be a reduction in wages or a curtailment in production or both, and either would be amply justified by present conditions, for Lowell, with her heavier goods, suffers more from high cotton than do others, but our mill officials are averse to anything of the sort until actually driven to it.

"The mills will continue to run as long as possible. If no relief comes the burden may become too great for the mills to bear alone."

FIGHTING THE SALOONS.

Berne, Ind., Dec. 19.—Not daunted by having his house blown up with dynamite, by being assaulted twice and being severely beaten, nor by an attempt made to lynch him, Frank Rohrer, editor of the B[illegible] Witness declares that he will continue his relentless war upon the saloon element of the town. His friends say that he has taken his life into his hands, and they fear he will be killed. While they support him in the stand he has taken, they urge him to exercise caution.

FRED ROHRER

DEAD IN A MINE.

Houghton, Mich., Dec. 21.—A party of miners reached the surface from the old workings of the grand portage section of the Isle Royale mine yesterday afternoon, having been down four hours and report finding the bodies of Chas. Peterson, aged 42, his son, Axel, 21, and John Gregorvich, where they had been overcome by gas while fleeing from the fire in the shaft of the Isle Royale mine. They were working on the eighth level and finding escape cut off by the flames, fled into the abandoned workings to the north of them and could go no further. Father and son were found together with Gregorvich a little distance from them. It will be necessary to build a road to bring the bodies to the surface, as the timbering is gone in the old shaft and the drifts north of the burned shaft are too full of gas to be traversed.

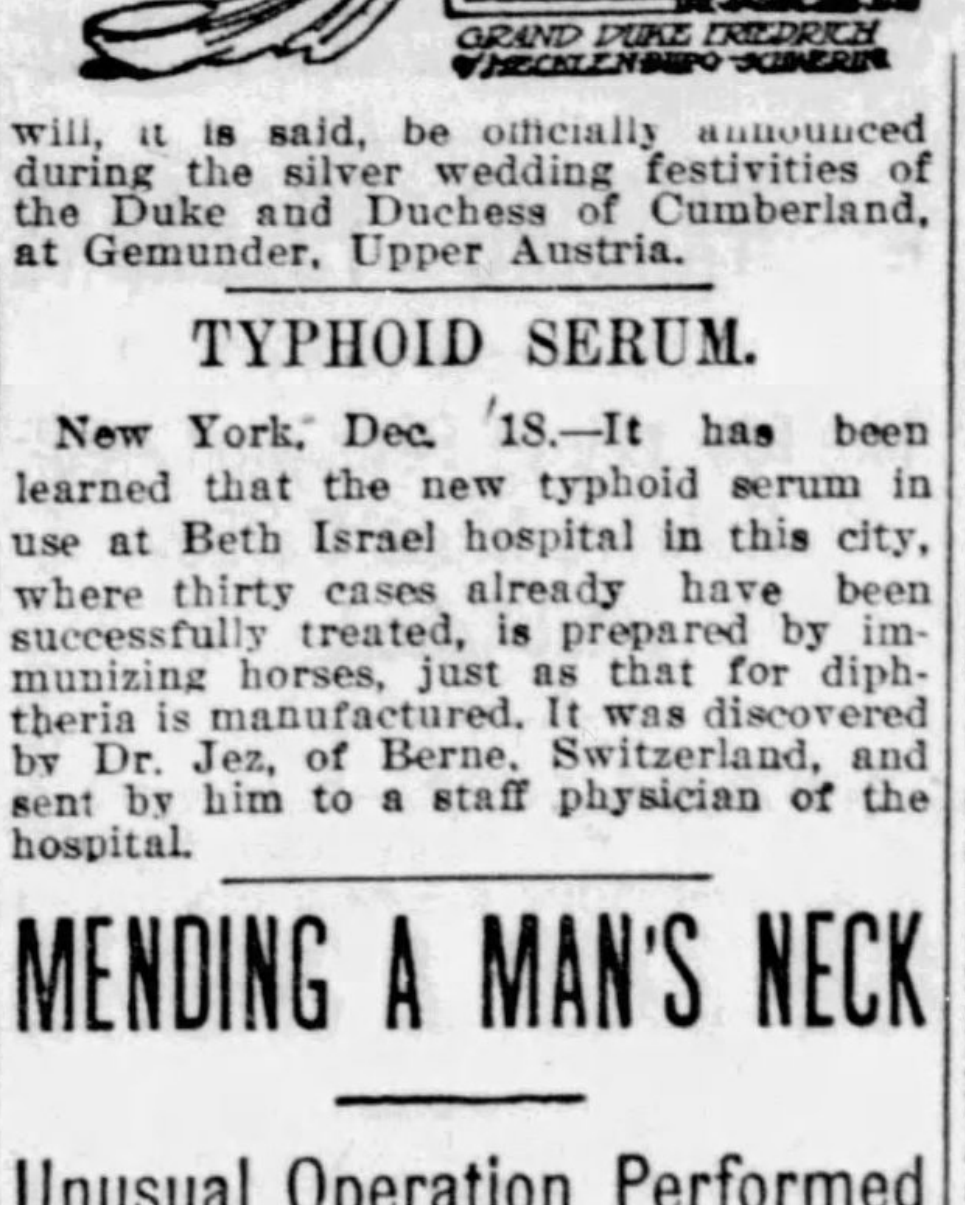
HUGE LANDSLIDE.

Olympia, Wash., Dec. 19.—A well-known stockman living near the base of Mount Ranier reports that an immense rock and landslide occurred on the mountain early this week. He declares the slide has changed the shape of the mountain to a perceptible degree and reduced its height. The first slide occurred Tuesday and was followed by others of lesser magnitude until Wednesday night. The roar and rumble of the successive falls of rock were plainly audible. He says the altered configuration of the mountain shows that hundreds of acres of rock must have fallen. It is not believed in Olympia generally that the slide is as great in extent as it appeared to the man bringing the information. Those who are familiar with the peak, from having climbed to the summit, maintain that the slide of the portions of the mountain indicated would be impossible.

ENGAGEMENT OF ROYALTY

Princess Alexandra to Wed Grand Duke Friedrich.

Berlin, Dec. 22.—The frequently denied and reaffirmed engagement of Princess Alexandra of Cumberland to the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schwerin will, it is said, be officially announced during the silver wedding festivities of the Duke and Duchess of Cumberland, at Gemunder, Upper Austria.


PRINCESS ALEXANDRA
GRAND DUKE FRIEDRICH OF MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN

TYPHOID SERUM.

New York, Dec. 18.—It has been learned that the new typhoid serum in use at Beth Israel hospital in this city, where thirty cases already have been successfully treated, is prepared by immunizing horses, just as that for diphtheria is manufactured. It was discovered by Dr. Jez, of Berne, Switzerland, and sent by him to a staff physician of the hospital.

MENDING A MAN'S NECK

Unusual Operation Performed at Sioux City.

Sioux City, Ia., Dec. 22.—An operation having no parallel in the surgical world was performed at St. Joseph's hospital today by Dr. William Jepson, who has the chair of surgery at the State University. John Norstrom, of Danbury, Conn., fell from a load of hay, striking on his head and breaking his neck. He has been almost paralyzed for weeks, and Dr. Jepson decided to operate on his broken neck. Accordingly a portion of the third cervical vertebrae was removed, the false growth of tissue was cleaned out and the bone replaced. The patient is doing well with every prospect of recovery. Operations have been performed for the relief of a dislocating of the lumbar vertebrae, but no other case is known in which the cervical vertebrae, situated so near the medulla oblongata, the seat of the vital bodily functions, has been successfully removed and replaced.

FLYING MACHINE WORKS

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 18.—A successful trial of a flying machine was made yesterday near Kitty Hawk, N. C., by Wilbur and Orville Wright, of Dayton, O. The machine flew three miles in the face of a wind blowing at the registered velocity of 21 miles an hour, and then gracefully descended to earth at the spot selected by the man in the navigator's car as a suitable landing place. The machine has no balloon attachmen, but gets its force from propellers worked by a small engine.

During the trial Wilbur Wright occupied the operator's seat and steered the apparatus. For three years the Wrights have experimented at Kitty Hawk upon their invention. They chose that point because of its isolation from the world.

A stiff wind was blowing up the coast at a registered velocity of 21 miles an hour, and the start was made directly in the teeth of it, but the machine pushed through without difficulty and maintained an even speed of eight miles an hour with ease. The small crowd of fisher folk and coast guards, who have been curiously watching the construction of the machine to rmonths, the actual work on the affair having commenced September 1, followed beneath it with exclamations of wonder, but it soon drew away from them and went on its flight through the air alone.

The first mile was covered, and then Orville Wright declared the invention was a success, but it was not until the third had been accomplished that the inventor cast about for a suitable landing place, found it, and, with his invention under the most perfect control, slowly neared the earth and let his machine alight as easily as a bird. Then he, too, cried, as the man of old, "Eureka," and wired his people at home: "Success; will be home Christmas."

GIRLS BURNED

In the Destruction of a College Dormitory.

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 19.—Seven people are dead and 17 seriously injured as the result of a fire that broke out last night in the girl's dormitory of Walden University, a negro institution.

The dead were: Stella Addison, Port Gibson, Mass.; Adele Christian, Greensboro, Ala.; Sallie Dade, Hattisburg, Miss.; Mattie Lee Moore, Huntsville, Ala.; Lulu A. Terry, McMinnville, Tenn.; Nannie C. Johnson, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Cora Bryant, of Cleveland, Miss., who was sick in bed on the fourth floor, is missing. It is supposed she perished, as all efforts to find her have been ineffectual.

The seriously injured are: Miss Eleanor Moore, of Chicago, whose injuries are not definitely ascertained, but she will die; Bertha Morford, Chicago, fracture of back and internal injury, will die; Victoria Miller, Anchorage, Ky., internally injured, probably fatal; Jane Douglas, Huntsville, Ala., leg broken and possibly internally injured; Mamie Harris, Maysville, Ky., leg broken and internally injured.

President Hamilton was the first member of the faculty of the university, which is an institution for the education of colored people, apprised of the conflagration. He heard the screams of the women and rushing to his window which is just across the street from the dormitory, saw the flames bursting from the eastern end of the building. Dr. Hamilton hastened to force an entrance into the building, but when he reached the door the frightened inmates had began to hurl themselves from the windows. Several of them were killed in jumping or crushed to death by those who followed. The dormitory was a four-story building of brick and the only means of exit was down the main stairway, which was shortly cut off after the fire broke out, and the inmates rushed panic stricken through the smoke and heat seeking an avenue of escape. Baffled in this they sought the windows and hurled themselves headlong to the ground. Most of them were women who had retired, and only had time to escape in their night garments.

25 CTS PISO'S CURE FOR 25 CTS
CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS.
Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.
CONSUMPTION

THE WEEK IN CONGRESS.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The Senate spent the day on the Cuban bill, most of the time being occupied by Mr. Bailey, of Texas, in an argument against the constitutionality of the proceding. He also opposed the bill as a matter of general policy. Brief speeches were made by Senators Teller, Depew and Lodge. Senator Morgan presented a concurrent resolution declaring that congress has the right to be informed of any purchases to be made in Panama by this government prior to the making of such investment. Senator Warren introduced a bill extending for ten years from Aug. 18, 1904, the period within which any state may apply for selection and segregation of public lands under the Caroy Desert land act. He also introduced a bill granting to railroads and water companies the right of way through public lands and reservations and reservoirs and pipe lines. A bill to create a bureau of public roads in the Department of Agriculture was introduced by Mr. Gallinger.

The House was in session for a little more than four hours today. The pension appropriation bill was up, but no conclusion was reached. The isthmian canal and the republic of Panama, the tariff, tobacco interests and questions affecting labor were debated. Representative Warner, of Illinois, introduced his pure food bill of the last congress. A concurrent resolution providing for a recess adjournment from Dec. 19 to Jan. 4 was adopted. The speaker, by unanimous consent, appointed Delegate Kalaulanoale, of Hawaii, as a member of the committee on territories. A joint resolution was adopted providing that the last naval appropriation bill shall not be so construed as to deprive midshipmen at sea of commutation of rations.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The Senate continued the debate on the Cuban bill today. Mr. Perkins, of California, spoke for the measure, as did Mr. Simmons, of North Carolina. Mr. McCumber, of North Dakota, opposed it. Mr. Patterson, of Colorado, made a speech against the bill, during which there were numerous colloquies between himself, Mr. Aldrich and Mr. Dolliver. Senator Cullom introduced Chicago protests against the Cuban bill. Two bills were introduced by Senator Penrose designed to strengthen the laws regulating the use of the mails. One is aimed at the "get-rich-quick" concerns, another at guessing contests, and includes the District of Columbia and "all territory within the jurisdiction of the United States" in the law forbidding the use of the mails for the transmission of lottery tickets. A resolution authorizing the printing of 2,000 copies of the War Department report on expenditures in Cuba during the occupation was agreed to. A joint resolution to correct an error in punctuation in the last naval appropriation bill, "to commute rations of midshipmen," was agreed to. Senator Morgan introduced a resolution directing the attorney-general to inform the Senate whether he has made or is making on behalf of the United States a purchase of the property of the new Panama Canal Co. or its franchises and concessions; if so, what authority on the isthmus is recognized in the transaction, and whether any agreement has been entered into between France and the authorities on the isthmus in respect to such purchase. Senator Heyburn, of Idaho, introduced a joint resolution requesting the President to acquire by annexation the island of San Domingo, the dependencies of San Domingo and Hayti. Senator Carmack introduced a resolution directing the secretary of the treasury to inform the Senate whether any report had been made by Leslie Cullom, special agent of the customs service, with respect to the conduct of A. R. Cruzen, the collector of customs in Porto Rico. Senator Platt, of Connecticut, introduced a bill to establish a court of patent appeals.

Rural free delivery, reciprocity with Canada and the new republic of Panama were topics of discussion in the house today. The subject of rural free delivery was introduced by Mr. Maddox (Dem., Ga.), who claimed that certain states have been favored in the establishment of routes. Mr. Hepburn (Rep., Iowa) and Mr. Hemenway (Rep., Ind.) among others replied on the Republican side, Mr. Crumpacker (Rep., Ind.) defended the course pursued by the administration in dealing with the Central American situation. Representative DeArmond, of Missouri, introduced a bill providing for the ranking and promotion of officers of the United States army on merit. Representative Landis, of Indiana, introduced a bill appropriating $125,000 for the erection of a public building at Kokomo, Ind. Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, introduced a concurrent resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution to give congress power to collect taxes on incomes, and providing that such tax shall not be construed to be a direct tax within the meaning of the constitution. He also introduced the following bills: To put upon the free list when coming from countries which permit identical products of ours to enter free, hides of animals, leather of all sorts, boots, shoes, saddles and harness; to prevent individuals or corporations engaged in interstate commerce from making it a condition of the sale of their products that the purchaser shall not sell or deal in products of any other persons, firms or corporations; to prevent the over-issue of stock by corporations or combinations of corporations and defining such overissue as "public cheating;" requiring the payment of interest on public bonds deposited with banks; providing for the refunding of certain states of cotton taxes paid in 1865, 1866 and 1867, and appropriating $65,000,000 for that purpose.

Washington, Dec. 16.—By the decisive vote of 57 to 18, the senate today passed the bill carrying into effect the reciprocity treaty with Cuba. The principal speeches were made by Mr. Spooner for the bill and by Mr. Bailey against it. The senate agreed to the house resolution providing for a holiday recess from Dec. 19 to Jan. 4. Senator Carmack introduced a resolution instructing the senate committee on postoffices and post roads to direct the postmaster general to send to the committee all papers connected with the recent investigation in his department and directing the committee to make further inquiry into the administration and expenditures of the postoffice department.. Senator Nelson introduced a bill to grant to the state of Minnesota for forestry purposes any tracts of vacant lands not reserved or withdrawn which shall be certified as fourth-rate in soil and too hilly or rocky for cultivation.

Central American affairs were discussed in the house today, and also pensions, industrial and agricultural conditions and labor. The session lasted more than four hours, the house being in committee of the whole almost the entire time on the pension appropriation bill, on which no conclusion was reached. A bill was introduced by Representative Payne, of New York, amending the act to simplify the laws in relation to the collection of revenues.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The senate today was the scene of a spirited debate on the isthmian canal question. Senators Hoar and Gorman criticised the President's action in recognizing the independence of the Republic of Panama, while Senator Foraker defended the executive's action. Mr. McComas (Md.) reported a bill from the committee on privileges providing for the protection of foreign exhibitors of artistic, musical and literary works at the St. Louis world's fair. The bill was passed. A bill authorizing the purchase of 2,000 acres of land near Columbus, O., upon which to erect a military post, was passed. The bill appropriates $180,000.

The house today passed without division the pension appropriation bill carrying $138,150,100. There was a general discussion on Panama, rural free delivery, tariff and pensions, speeches being made by Messrs. Scott (Rep., Kan.), Miers (Dem., Ind.), Sims (Dem., Tenn.), and Burgess (Dem., Texas). Representatives Lacey of Iowa, introduced a bill for the protection of wild animals, birds and fish in the forest reserves of the United States. When the house convened the speaker signed the bill carrying into effect the Cuban reciprocity treaty, using a gold pen provided by the Cuban minister.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The relationship of the United States to the new Republic of Panama continued to be the leading theme in the senate today, but the discussion was confined to one senator and was not so exciting as yesterday. Mr. Daniel, of Virginia, was the speaker, and he advocated the acceptance of Mr. Hoar's resolution calling on the President for more information relative to the November revolution in Panama. Mr. Fulton made a speech in support of the bill to give aid to the proposed Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland, Ore., in 1905. The Chinese treaty was ratified. Senator Hoar offered a resolution instructing the committee on printing to ascertain whether it is not possible to have the Congressional Record printed in better type than at present, which was agreed to. Senator Penrose introduced a concurrent resolution requesting the President to use the good offices of the United States to induce the signatory powers of the Berlin congress of 1878 to convene to see that the provisions of the treaty which guaranteed protection and reforms to the Christian population of the Ottoman empire may be faithfully carried out. Senator Morgan introduced a bill to fix the compensation of the members of the isthmian canal commission. It is almost identical with that under which the present commission is now serving. A bill providing for the construction of a lighthouse at Diamond shoal, on the coast of North Carolina, was passed.

The house today by a vote of 109 to 100 authorized the committee on expenditures in the postoffice department to request the postmaster general to furnish that committee the papers in connection with the recent postoffice investigation. Mr. Cooper (Wis.) introduced a concurrent resolution providing for the free transportation of 800 teachers of the public schools of Porto Rico to the United States and return, to allow attendance on the summer schools in this country. He also introduced a memorial of the house of delegates of that island, praying that the constitution of United States be extended to Porto Rico. Also a memorial from the same body praying for a territorial form of government. Mr. Morrell (Pa.) introduced a bill granting a rebate of 15 per cent of tariff duties on goods brought to and from the Philippine islands in American ships. Mr. Shafroth (Colo.) introduced a constitutional amendment providing that the right to vote shall not be denied on account of sex. Mr. Hay (Va.) introduced a resolution providing that the speaker appoint a committee of five to make an investigation of alleged postal frauds. The bill authorizing the city of Phoenix and the towns of Tempe and Mesa, Arizona, to bond for the construction of a wagon road from Phoenix to the site of the $3,000,000 dam, to be constructed for the Salt river irrigation reservoir in Arizona, was passed. The senate bill to protect foreign exhibitors of literary, artistic and musical works at the St. Louis world's fair was passed. A resolution from elections committee No. 1, authorizing that committee to order election officers in the city of San Francisco to produce the ballots in the Kahn-Livernash contested election case, was agreed to.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Both branches of congress, after short sessions today, adjourned for the Christmas holidays, and will resume the session on Monday, Jan. 4. In the senate, Mr. Gorman presented and asked immediate consideration for a resolution directing the postmaster general to send to the senate the reports of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Bristow and Holms Conrad and Charles J. Bonaparte, special commissioners for the government. He said the reports for which the resolution calls already had been sent to the house and had been printed. Mr. Quay made objection, and asked for the postponement of the resolution for a day. This objection has the effect of postponing consideration until after the holidays. The Morgan resolution offered yesterday was then laid before the senate. Mr. Pettus said if Panama was an independent nation, it was important to know whether it was legitimately such. He declared that war against Colombia had already been practically waged, but argued that no other authority than congress could assume this responsibility.

The speaker announced when the house convened that an error had been made yesterday in reporting the vote to the chair on the motion of Mr. Wanger (Rep., Pa.) for the previous question on the motion to agree to the resolution reported from the committee on postoffice expenditures, of which he is chairman. He said it was reported at the time as 108 to 17 in favor of the previous question, whereas the vote stool 107 to 107. All proceedings had yesterday subsequent to that vote were then vacated, and, by unanimous consent, the journal was corrected accordingly. The resolution under consideration authorized the committee on expenditures of the postoffice department to request from the postmaster general papers in connection with the recent postoffice investigation. This action left the Wanger resolution before the house, subject to the further action of the house, when Mr. Williams, the minority leader, offered as a substitute the resolution he proposed yesterday, which provides that the postmaster general be requested to transmit to the house all papers and evidence touching alleged frauds and irregularities in the postoffice department and postal service, excepting such as, in the opinion of the attorney general, might defeat the ends of justice. The resolution offered by Mr. Williams was agreed to without division by practically a unanimous vote.

Charles Steele, of J. P. Morgan & Co., at shipbuilding trust hearing, testified C. M. Schwab received $30,000,000 stock for securing option, because of "risk."

Sick and Helpless Come Unto Me.

I Have Discovered the Marvelous Secret of Life and I Give It Free to You.

My Mission on Earth is to Heal the Sick and Cure the Maimed—Come Unto Me and I Will Give You Health and Life and Youth.

My Vital Life Fluid, the Most Marvelous Compound Ever Discovered, I Send to You Free for the Asking.

I have discovered the marvelous secret of life and I can make you live, for I can make you well, no matter what your sickness; I can make you strong and well, no matter how weak or crippled you are. With my Vital Life Fluid, the secret of which is known only to me, I cure every known ailment of the human flesh. Cripples throw down their crutches and walk away well and happy; the sick take up their beds and walk. There is no ill or ailment under the sun which my marvelous Vital Life Fluid will not banish, and it restores to the perfect bloom of health every poor and unfortunate sufferer.

He Has Discovered the "Secret of Life" for He Cures All Diseases With His Marvelous Vital Life Fluid.

I do not seek to demonstrate a theory. I have no time for that, for I am accomplishing facts. I am curing thousands who had given up all hope of life. I am bringing joy and happiness into hundreds of homes. If you suffer from kidney and liver disease, lung and stomach or heart trouble, consumption, constipation, rheumatism, neuralgia, blood and skin diseases, catarrh, bronchitis, paralysis, diabetes, syphilis, lost vitality, nervous debility, insomnia, blood poison, enemia, female weakness and ailments, eczema or salt rheum, headaches, backache, nervousness, fevers, coughs, colds, asthma or any disease or weakness of the vital organs, come unto me and I will cure you and make you well. The wicked may scoff and cry "fake," but the people whom I have snatched from the very jaws of death and have lifted up and given strength and health are living witnesses to the everlasting power of my matchless Vital Life Fluid. To me and my marvelous remedy all systems and all diseases are alike. It matters not how long you have been afflicted; it matters not how hopeless and helpless you may be; it matters not what doctors have said or what remedies have failed to cure you; it matters not whether you have faith, my Vital Life Fluid is life itself and banishes all disease. From the very edge of the grave, by the aid of this mysterious compound, I have brought them back to life and none need perish, for I will send to every sufferer some of my priceless Vital Life Fluid absolutely free. That is my duty, and it will perform its miraculous cures right before your own eyes. Write and tell me what you wish to be cured of, and I will cure you. I will send you the marvelous Vital Life Fluid that will make you as strong and healthy as if disease had never touched you. Write me today. Never mind the scoffings of your friends. Your life may be at stake and you not know it. They cannot save you, but I can save you and I will if you will only let me. My private address is Dr. C. Sargent Ferris, 5143 Strawn Building, Cleveland, Ohio, and I personally assure every person who writes me, be they rich or poor, a prompt and courteous answer and enough of my precious Vital Life Fluid free to convince them that I have truly discovered the secret of long life and perfect health.

BENSON ARRESTED.

Charged With Being the Head of the Land Frauds.

Washington, Dec. 19.—John A. Benson, a wealthy San Francisco real estate man, charged by the interior department with being the head of the alleged land frauds extending over a dozen western states and territories, was arrested yesterday at the Willard Hotel by Secret Service Officer John A. Burns, just as he was preparing to leave for New York.

It is stated that probably half a dozen other arrests in and out of the interior department will follow and that there will be several dismissals of officials in the land office.

Mr. Benson is accused of bribery. It is alleged in the affidavit of Mr. Burns and in the warrant that Benson had paid $500 to Woodford D. Harlan, formerly chief of the special service division of the general land office and now a clerk in that office, on March 15 of this year, for the purpose of getting information regarding the investigation of his operations by the land office. Benson was taken before Commissioner Taylor. He wished to have the preliminary hearing of his case postponed and the date was fixed for Dec. 30. He gave bail for his appearance on that date.

Arthur B. Pugh, who has been the special attorney for the interior department on the land frauds, and Oliver E. Pagin, assistant attorney of the department of justice, who has also been employed on the cases, stated in asking for a large bail bond for Benson that he had been guilty of bribery during his present visit to Washington, since last Monday, and in the interior department itself, notwithstanding that he was fully aware that his connection with the alleged frauds was fully known by the department.

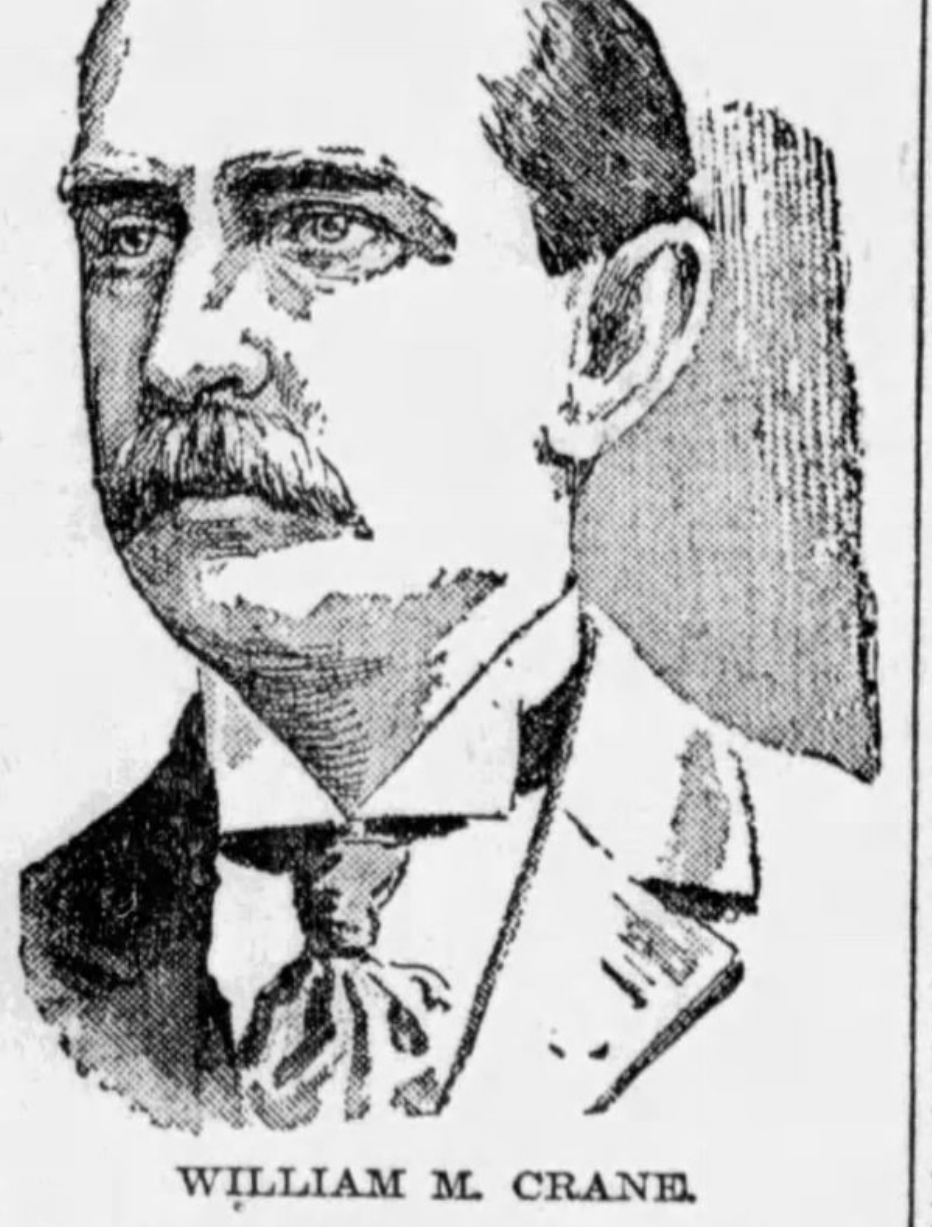
Secretary Hitchcock was so incensed at the flagrancy of this alleged offense that he told the officers to have Benson arrested at once, although it had not been planned to apprehend him at present. Benson came to Washington in answer to decoy letters, it is said.

The information on which the warrant was issued stated in brief that Woodford D. Harlan, in his capacity as chief of the special service division of the general land office, had charge of the investigation of the land frauds, sending out special agents in suspected cases of fraud and receiving the reports of such agents on the cases, and that Benson had paid him $500 in return for being allowed to examine the reports of the special agents in his own case.

Mr. Benson is the senior member of the firm of Benson & Hyde, with offices in San Francisco and owning vast tracts of land in a dozen or more western states and territories. It is charged that his firm is at the head of a conspiracy which has been in operation for six years, or since the passage of the forest reserve act in 1897, and which has defrauded the government out of at least 100,000 acres of public land. Numerous different schemes are alleged to have been worked by the firm and its associates to obtain the land, sometimes by paying much less than it was worth and sometimes without any payment.

THE PRESIDENT'S LUNCH.

Washington, Dec. 17. — President Roosevelt entertained at luncheon today former Governor William Murray Crane and Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, and Secretaries Root and Cortelyou. The fact that Gov. Crane was at the luncheon in addition to being an invited guest to the President's cabinet dinner tonight, induced considerable political comment. It has been known for many months that it is the desire of the President that Gov. Crane should be identified in some intimate capacity with the Presidential campaign next year. Indeed it has been suggested that he might be the chairman of the Republican national committee in the event of Senator Hanna's refusal to accept the place. It can be said, however, that that particular subject was not discussed at the luncheon today. Mr. Hanna has been requested by the President to retain the position of national chairman, and until he shall have determined definitely whether or not he will accept the chairmanship, no move regarding the matter will be made. In any event, it is understood Gov. Crane will fill an important place in the campaign management next year. Today's luncheon party discussed political affairs informally, but assurance is given that beyond that the conference was of no general significance.



WILLIAM M. CRANE.

THE CANAL TREATY

Back in Washington After Going to Panama.

Washington, Dec. 16.—A big expressman brought the Hay-Bunau-Varilla canal treaty, inclosed in a large steel box to the state department today, and deposited it in the office of Chief Clerk Michael. The expressman also had two tin-bound boxes which contained keys to the big steel box and to the smaller box contained within, enclosing the treaty. The various boxes were prettily sealed with red and blue silk ribbon with a tag bearing an address to Minister Bunau-Varilla, care of John Hay, secretary of State. The Panamanian minister is expected to arrive in Washington from New York, in a day or two, and the packages will be held subject to his order.

Until the boxes are opened, the state department officials cannot tell whether the enclosed treaty is the original treaty, drawn and countersigned in Panama and returned, or whether it is the ordinary ratification treaty supposed to have been exchanged in Panama. It will make little difference in the results, but the form of exchange may be affected. Minister Bunau-Varilla will remain in technical charge of the treaty until the United State senate has either approved or rejected it.

If the treaty is approved he will exchange this copy with one prepared by the state department, thus completing the negotiations and putting the convention at once into force.

The cruiser Olympia, which has undergone repairs at the Norfolk navy yards, will sail tomorrow for Colon for service as the flagship of Rear Admiral Coghlan, commanding the Caribbean squadron. It is probable that the Mayflower, now serving as flagship, will come to Washington on being relieved by the Olympia at Colon.

Radway's Pills

Small, act without pain or griping, purely vegetable, mild and reliable. Regulate the Liver and Digestive Organs. The safest and best medicine in the world for the cure of all disorders of the stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Nervous Diseases, Loss of Appetite, Headache, Constipation, Costiveness, Indigestion, Biliousness, Fever, Inflammation of the Bowels, Piles and all other derangements of the Internal Viscera. 25c a box. Druggists or by mail. RADWAY & CO., 55 Elm street, New York.

CIVIL SERVICE.

Report of the Chief Examiner for the Past Year.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Frank M. Kiggins, chief examiner of the civil service commission, in his annual report, says that during the last fiscal year there were 112624 persons examined for the classified service of the government, and 40,423 appointments to all branches of the service. Of the appointments 24 per cent were to purely clerical positions, 3 per cent to professional, technical or scientific positions, 38 per cent to mechanical positions requiring no educational examination, and 7 per cent to skilled labor positions not exactly mechanical in their character, but requiring no educational examination. Of all those examined nearly 80 per cent passed, and 36 per cent of all examined were successful in securing appointments. Mr. Kiggins says the commission has reduced its examinations to essential tests of fitness, and urges the consolidation of a large number of local boards of examiners throughout the country to secure closer supervision and more effective administration.

The report states that conditions of employment in the Philippines are improving, and salaries for technical men have been increased with the result that within the last five months more applicants have taken examinations for that service than for the preceding year.

"The number of Americans in that service now constitutes more than 50 per cent of the entire force, there being 2,777 Americans and 2,697 Filipinos in public employment. As the Filipinos acqufre a knowledge of English and become more familiar with American methods they are expected to take the places of Americans.

"Several examinations were held in Porto Rico for the federal service of the island and for employment in the United States. In those examinations given in both English and Spanish in which Americans and Porto Ricans competed, it appeared that a larger proportion of Porto Ricans passed than of Americans, the showing made by the natives of the islands in those examinations being extremely creditable."

WOOD'S NOMINATION.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The senate committee on military affairs met today and decided to postpone action on the case of General Leonard Wood until January 4. It is planned to go over the entire testimony that was introduced in the investigation of charges and give time for the preparation of the majority and minority reports which will be made. The majority report it is expected will be an endorsement of General Wood's military and civil record in Cuba.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Secretary Root was the first witness today before the senate committee on military affairs, which is investigating the protests against the confirmation of Gen. Leonard Wood to be major general. The committee convened at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Root's testimony was in defense of Gen. Wood on the charges that have been made during the course of the hearings. He read extracts from official correspondence bearing on the charges, and also concerning Gen. Wood's administration as governor-general of Cuba. He was on the witness stand two and a half hours.

CABINET DINNER.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The dinner in honor of the cabinet which marked the opening of the social season at the White House was given by President and Mrs. Roosevelt last night. Invited to meet the members of the cabinet was a large company, including members of the Senate and House and quite a number of out-of-town guests. The table was set in the state dining room. It was semi-circular in shape, and was decorated with beds of red carnations and huge vases or bride's roses. To the right of the President sat Mrs. Hay and to his left Mrs. Root. Secretary Root escorted Mrs. Roosevelt to the table. Mrs. Roosevelt wore a dress of white brocade and lace, Miss Carow white satin with crystal trimmings and Miss Roosevelt blue satin and lace. Secretary Hay was unable to be present on account of indisposition, and Senator Hanna was called away from the city on a business matter. Mr. and Mrs. Myron T. Herrick were among the guests.

RECIPROCITY BILL.

Washington, Dec. 17.—By a decisive vote of 57 to 18 the senate yesterday passed the bill carrying into effect the reciprocity treaty with Cuba. The final vote came at the close of a day which was marked by a debate which, while at all times animated, was never acrimonious. The principal speeches were made by Mr. Spooner for the bill and by Mr. Bailey against it.

THE SENATE MINORITY.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The agreement of the Democratic caucus of the Senate that hereafter the Democratic senators shall vote as a unite on party questions has aroused so much interest that it has been thought worth while to give out the text of the resolution, which was adopted by the caucus. It is as follows:

"That hereafter the decisions of the caucus, when made by two-thirds majority, shall be binding on all the members, except when previous pledges have been made by senators to their constituents or instructions have been received from their state legislature or when a question of constitutional construction is involved."

NEW PUBLIC BUILDING.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The Senate committee on public buildings and grounds has authorized Chairman Fairbanks to make a favorable report on the bill making an appropriation of $7,000,000 for the purchase of a site and erection of a building for the departments of state, justice and labor. The purchase of the old Corcoran art gallery site, bounded by Lafayette square, H street, Seventeenth street and Pennsylvania avenue, or any other suitable square in that vicinity is directed.

Noted Lawyer Dead.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Frederick R. Coudert, the well known lawyer of New York, died here yesterday from an affection of the heart with which he had suffered for several years. He was 71 years old. Mr. Coudert, with his wife and an unmarried daughter, was spending the winter in Washington where he hoped to escape the severity of the climate of the more northern city.

Chinese Treaty Ratified.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The senate in executive session ratified the treaty for the extension of the commercial relations between the United States and China, and then removed the injunction of secrecy. No opposition was manifested by any senator to the treaty.

IT RESTS WITH POWELL

Recognition of the New Dominican Government in His Hands

Washington, Dec. 22.—A much belated dispatch from United States Minister Powell at San Domingo City, dated December 14, has reached the State department containing the information which already has appeared in the press dispatches that the provisional government of that republic has offered to recognize the agreements as to arbitration of American claims entered into with Mr. Powell by the late Wos y Gil administration. Whether or not this acquiesence by the provisional government will induce Mr. Powell to extend recognition by the United States rests entirely in his hands according to State department officials. Touching reports that have been published to the effect that the United States intends to intervene in Dominican affairs in the near future, it is said at the State department there will be no departure from the established rule of limiting interference in cases where American interests are directly affected by revolutionary uprisings.

A WARNING TO BANKS

The Identity of Pension Check Holders Must Be Established.

Washington, Dec. 22.—It is stated at the treasury department that where a pension certificate has been issued to a woman who personated the widow of a deceased pensioner, and pension agent's checks have been drawn payable to her and delivered to her upon vouchers executed by her, and the bank cashed such checks, which were in due course paid at the subtreasury upon which drawn, the government will make reclamation of the amount. In other words, bankers and other persons who cash pension checks are charged with the responsibility of establishing the identity of the payees of such checks to the same extent that they are charged with the responsibility of establishing the identity of the payees of checks issued in ordinary commercial transactions. The exhibition of a pension certificate is not identification of the person named therein.

STRIKE ON FUNERALS.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—With nearly 75 funerals to be held in Chicago today, there was no sign of peace between the livery and hearse drivers and their employers. The funeral of Anna Vlicek, whose husband is in jail charged with her murder, was held today under guard of police, who were forced to use clubs to disperse crowds of striking cabmen and sympathizers. The children of the murdered woman alone attended the funeral. The corpse was taken to the cemetery in a wagon.

In cold, drizzling rain the relatives of those who were to be buried slipped along the ice and slush covered pavements as they followed to the railway stations the business-like "dead" wagons of the undertakers. Walking was treacherous, but there was practically no alternative. No carriages were to be had.

The undertakers announced that they would not send out any hearses until the strikers had been forced into submission, for it would be dangerous to send the costly carriers out of the barns even if non-union men could be had.

A funeral car instead of a hearse, as well as a police guard, was utilized by Undertaker Joseph Blake, to circumvent striking pickets from whom violence was feared, at the funeral of the baby daughter of Joseph Keafer, president of a tea company. The body of the child was placed in a common undertaking wagon instead of a hearse, driven to Thirty-first and Wallace streets, and put on a street car in waiting. The mourners boarded a second car and the trip was made to Oakwood cemetery. The Keefer residence was surrounded at the time of the funeral by pickets. The police were present holding themselves in readiness in case of violence, but none was encountered.

PATENTS TO BE GRANTED

Order Holding Up Land Entries to Be Revoked.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The secretary of the interior has revoked the order under which final action on entries under the timber and stone act were suspended and all such entries, aggregating a large number, will now be acted upon in the regular order by the general land office. The order involves several hundred thousand acres of public domain in the west, all entries on which have been held up because of the big frauds perpetrated on the government under the timber and stone act. The suspension which has been in force many months has served a good purpose, and in the view of the interior department has been the means of protecting and preventing many fraudulent entries. A rigid scrutiny of all entries under the act will be continued, but the revocation of the suspension order will have the effect of allowing all valid entries to be patented. This was the important development today in the land fraud proceedings, and indicates that the government believes that the backbone of alleged ring that has been speculating in and taking unlawful means of acquiring lands under this act has been broken.

FAVORS THE SETTLERS

Land Dispute Settled by the United States Court.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The United States supreme court decided two cases involving the question as to whether long-continued possessions of land within the Central Pacific railroad land grant in Utah constitutes a valid title by virtue of the statute of limitations. The cases were those of the Toltec Ranch company vs. George Cook and others and the Toltec Ranch company vs. Wm. Babcock and Louisa Babcock. The Ranch company claimed title under a transfer from the railroad company, but possession in both cases was disputed on the plea of possession for twenty or thirty years. The supreme court of the state of Utah decided in favor of the settlers, and the supreme court of the United States has affirmed that decision. The opinion was handed down by Justice McKenna.

COLOMBIA'S COURSE.

Paris, Dec. 18.—The "united Colombian committee" here gave out a statement today saying that Colombia would, first, seek through a commission to induce the United States to recognize Colombian rights under the treaty of 1846; if the commission fails, Colombia will ask for submission of the question to The Hague arbitration court; third, if its submission to The Hague court is refused Colombia will go to war and rely upon the Latin republics to come to her aid.

PRACTICALLY AN ULTIMATUM

Japan Put a Time Limit on Request to China.

Pekin, Dec. 22.—A report is current here that Japan's request for the reconsideration by Russia of her reply to the Japanese demands was accompanied by the specification of a time limit.

It is the expectation in St. Petersburg that the question of war will be decided in fourteen days.

Russian Warships at Port Arthur.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 22.—Of the Russian warships recently at Chemulpo, Corea, in connection with the disturbance there, only the cruiser Royarin remains at that place. All the other vessels have returned to Port Arthur.

Vice Admiral Stark, commanding the Russian Pacific squadron while the war ships were at Chemulpo, had an audience with the emperor of Corea.

According to the Port Arthur Novykrai, some of the Chinese militia fought in the ranks of the Chinese robber bands in the recent encounter with Russians. The paper contends that Russia is compelled to take active steps to rid Manchuria of these bandits because China has not fulfilled her treaty engagements.

Trying to Prevent War.

London, Dec. 22.—Specials from Paris to the morning papers say that France and Great Britain are redoubling their efforts at St. Petersburg and Tokio, respectively, to prevent a rupture between Russia and Japan. According to the Daily Telegraph's Nagasaki's correspondent, the government has given notice that it will require all the dry docks in the country for the use of the Japeanse fleet, the vessels of which are already beginning to dock for cleaning purposes. The correspondent says that Russians have begun the building of a rampart around Port Arthur to include the new town, and the old rampart is to be demolished.

The Daily Mail prints a report from Seoul to the effect that M. Pauloff, the Russian minister, has entered objections to the landing of Japanese sappers attached to the telegraph guards.

The Daily Mail's Shanghai correspondent says that the British cruiser Sarius, which should have wintered there, has been ordered to proceed to Wee-Hai-Wei, where it is expected a naval concentration will take place.

British Crews for China Station.

London, Dec. 22.—The British armored cruiser King Alfred, was commissioned at Portsmouth today for the China station, to which he will take relief crews for the battleship Glory, and other vessels.

Japanese Talk of Peace.

Paris, Dec. 22.—The officials of the Japanese legation insist that they do not believe there is an imminent danger of war between Russia and Japan and express the opinion that the dispute will be settled amicably.

They add, however, that Japan will not abandon any of her rights in Manchuria, and say that if a conflict occurs they believe the Japanese will obtain the first victory on the sea.

Desperate Efforts at Settlement.

Paris, Dec. 22.—Confirmation was obtained from official sources today of the reports that Foreign Secretary Lansdowne and Foreign Minister Delcasse have within the last few days made strong representations at Tokio with the view to averting a crisis between Russia and Japan. There is reason to believe that these representations, coming at the critical moment when Japan's reply was being handed to the Russian minister, Baron DeRosen, exercised a powerful restraining influence. This is especially true of Lord Lansdowne, owing to Great Britain being the ally of Japan. The terms of the Japanese answer are not yet known here, but, owing to the action taken by Great Britain and France, the officials here are confident that her answer permits of a continuance of the diplomatic negotiations towards securing common grounds for an agreement.

WOOD'S PROMOTION.

President Will Not "Jump" His Friend at Once.

Washington, Dec. 22.—To some of the senators who have particularly interested themselves in the pending Wood nomination with an eye especially to the protection of some of the veteran officers of the army, the President has expressed himself very plainly to the effect that these officers have nothing to fear in the immediate future. As it was pointed out to him that there was considerable apprehension among the friends of these army officers lest upon the retirement of General Chaffee with the rank of lieutenant-general, the President might appoint Major General Wood to be lieutenant general, involving the "jumping" of a number of distinguished general officers who never would have a chance to attain the highest rank by reason of General Wood's incumbency in the place for 15 years, the President has expressly declared that he has no such intention. Incidentally that involved an undertaking on his part to promote some of these general officers referred to after General Chaffee's retirement. But he did not state that when he made such promotions as he saw fit, he would not close the list by appointing General Leonard Wood to be lieutenant general. The understanding thus reached with the committee is expected to have an important influence upon the action that will be had upon the Wood nomination.

ACUTE TETANUS CURED

Man Bent Double by Disease Is Cured.

New York, Dec. 22.—A case of acute tetanus has been cured at a hospital here by the use of anti-toxine injected in large quantities.

The patient was injured by a street car. The body was bent almost double when he was taken to the institution. Ten hours after the injured leg had been amputated 60 centimetres of anti-toxine was injected into the large vein at the elbow. The next day 40 centimetres was administered, and by the morning of the third day there was slight improvement. From that time on the injections were made in constantly decreasing quantities. At the end of the fifth day the body began to relax, and by the eighth day the patient's condition was such that the injections were discontinued. The man has now recovered entirely.

Cheaper Than Machen.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The postmaster general has awarded the contract for leather straps for letter carriers bundles to Headley & Farmer, of Newark, N. J., the prices for the three sizes used being 4, 5 and 6 cents each or, it is stated, at the Postoffice department, about one-third the amount paid for the straps by A. W. Machen, former superintendent of the free delivery system.

REFUSED TO BE DUPED

Secret Correspondence in Shipbuilding Fiasco.

New York, Dec. 22.—Letters and cablegrams which are alleged to have passed between New York and Paris in connection with the United States Shipbuilding underwriting placed in the French capital, are published today by the World. Reference to these communications was made recently in the shipbuilding hearings before United States Special Examiner R. D. Oliphant, while Charles B. Alexander, of the firm of Alexander & Green, attorneys, was undergoing examination. The letters, which were kept secret by counsel, were said to show what methods had been pursued in order to compel the French investors to meet the calls for money on their underwriting after they had been given to understand through a cablegram sent by the Trust Company of the Republic to its agent, John W. Young, that the underwriting was a "success." This dispatch gave them the idea that they only need stand ready to receive their profits as members of the underwriting syndicate.

Charles B. Alexander happened to be in Paris at the time and to him fell the duty of removing the false impression and holding the signers of the subscription list to their agreement. His firm is counsel for the trust company here which had charge of the underwriting and the communications which fill seven columns of the World, are alleged to have passed between Mr. Alexander and his firm in this city.

The alleged correspondence began July 15, 1902, and in the early stages revolves largely around the investigation set on foot as to the financial responsibility of those who signatures had been secured in Paris to the underwriting agreement, which was then in the care of the Bank de Roma. Baron Calvet Rogniat and M. Schreyer, a banker, were the heaviest subscribers. While both were much disappointed over the misunderstanding as to the success of the underwriting here, they were stated to stand ready to pay their shares. Finally the situation apparently had been explained to the satisfaction of everyone and preparations were made for the first call on the underwriters July 23, for 25 per cent of the subscription, to be followed by the second payable August 1, for the same amount. Then came the exciting portion of the correspondence. The banking house of Morgan, Harjes & Co., had been selected to receive payments to be cabled at once to the Mercantile Trust company, of New York, but the subscribers had not come forward on July 25, to which day the payments had been postponed and on July 28 a letter stated that Mr. Alexander had changed his tone with regard to the situation. The writer is quoted:

"While it may be true that these underwriters were not treated properly by Young in leaving them under the impression for so long a time that all the bonds had been sold, yet that has been well atoned for by the patience and care with which we have in the last week given explanation after explanation to all parties. They are now all in default from the 25th and I have told Oppenheim to notify each one that their individual liability in case that the money is not in New York in time to make the payment will not be limited to the amount of their securities, but that there will be consequential damages to every party connected with the affair." The letter criticised severely in a postscript the impressions said to have been thrown out by the younger Harjes, who was reported to be very much prejudiced against the whole affair, and that it was said by the cashier that there was no market in New York for the bonds. The writer adds that he saw Harjes at once and threatened to turn the account over to the Credit Lyonalse, and thereupon Harjes agreed to tell everything good he could about the personnel of the company and the affair. Efforts through other sources also were made, according to letters and cablegrams quoted, to counteract the effect of various reports circulated as to teh impending collapse of the underwriting scheme in New York.

In one of the letters from Paris addressed to Alexander and Green, Mr. Alexander is quoted as follows:

"I constantly say to all parties that nothing can be done in the way of assisting the underwriters here to dispose of their bonds unless they frankly come forward when notified, acknowledge their liability and make their first payment, when all hands will unite in endeavoring to sell any bonds they may wish to dispose of.

"The Viscomtesse Dandigenea sat by me at dinner last night. She had some of the Scott's Union Ironworks stock and had just telegraphed, refusing to sell it except for a higher price. I think I persuaded her that it would be good judgment not to stand out, but I suggested to her that perhaps Scott would make her an offer in the securities of the new company, which will be good enough to be attractive, as one of her difficulties is the trouble of investing the money she may receive."

In another letter dated July 17, 1902, signed by Mr. Alexander, the statement is made that in investigating the Bank Roma the writer learned that the pope had $6,000,000 in that bank; that he had a similar sum with the Rothschilds and about the same amount in England.

According to the World the word "Drexels" was used in the correspondence to represent Morgan, Hajes & Co., and in one of the letters credited to Mr. Alexander there appears the following: "I got a pledge from the Drexels that everything good should be said of the enterprise."

One of the French underwriters was named Schreyer and the following reference was made to him in one of the letters: "I hear he has a million dollars belonging to one old woman to invest at his discretion." In this same letter there is also this statement: "I have caused it to be known that a leading English banker has told me that I would get a million dollars in twenty-four hours—which is true, of course."

Another passage in this letter says:

"I get down here every morning at 9 o'clock, and am here as late as half past six. I drive these men with all the energy which Mr. Hyde might have shown in the early days of the Equitable, and they drive, I am bound to say, very well. I am delighted with the Oppenheims. I have yet to find them fail in being absolutely true and accurate. I am glad to hear that they are getting out of their trouble, and that they are likely to receive, now that the British are on tick, about $750,000."

A letter dated July 28 sets forth that the situation had changed and that the writer had notified Oppenheim that all the French underwriters would be held to their individual liability.

A postscript to this letter read thus:

"P. S.—Since writing the above Rogniat (one of the underwriters) came in in a great state of excitement and said that he had been to see Harjes and asked whether they knew anything about the business; that he was accompanied by a man who spoke English and he listened; that the cashier did everything he could to speak badly about the business and said there were no quotations for the securities in New York, and that they did not want to have anything to do with it, although they would receive the money for it. Rogniat was very indignant and came to me.

"I saw young Harjes who said he had been very much prejudiced against the affair since seeing Young. * * * I became very indignant, said that I had not introduced Young, that he was a mere promoter such as Mr. Morgan used in New York, said Rogniat was the man and that Rogniat told me this very day he would pay up the entire call irrespective of whether there were any defaults."

In the correspondence is included the following cablegrams:

"Paris, July 28, 1902.—Maccook, N. Y.: Have Morgan's wire Harjes. Take cordial view of affair. Say properties valuable, personal fine. Rogniat just told me will pay for underwriters who may default, but wants those paying Harjes encouraged. Have read riot act Harjes today. Report quick.

"(Signed.) "BEATTY."

Maccook, the World says, was the cable address of Alexander and Green and Beatty was Mr. Alexander's Paris cable address.

The hearing in the United States Shipbuilding receivership proceedings was postponed today until tomorrow, because of the illness of Counsel Untermyer of the suing bondholders.

Before the examiner announced the adjournment Mr. Guthrie, counsel for Schwab and others, made a statement regarding the publication of the letters and telegrams that passed between the firm of Alexander and Green regarding the French underwriters. Mr. Guthrie said in part:

"I desire to call the examiner's attention to the publication in a newspaper in this city this morning, of letters, telegrams and cables which have been the subject of examination at several hearings before you.

"These letters, telegrams and cables were not exhibited in evidence because Mr. Alexander felt constrained to plead privilege and confidence, because they were the private communications from members of the law firm in relation to the private business of their clients. Pending the ruling of the court on the question of the admissibility of those communications, which you said you would certify to the court, and while those letters, telegrams and cables were claimed to be privileged they were furnished to a newspaper and published this morning. We understand this publication to be a direct contempt of court and that the person guilty of causing their publication is guilty of a gross contempt. We ask you, therefore, that at the next hearing we may temporarily suspend the taking of testimony of complainant's witnesses and take testimony as to the person who gave publication to these letters, cables and telegrams."

Mr. Wollman, associate counsel with Samuel Untermyer, replied:

"If there is to be any insinuation that Mr. Untermyer or myself had anything to do with giving publicity to these communications, I hereby declare that it is absolutely untrue. Neither Mr. Untermyer nor I had anything to do with giving out those letters, telegrams and cables to the press. Mr. Guthrie knows there are many copies of them in existence and that copies could easily be obtained. I was as much surprised at seeing them published this morning as Mr. Guthrie could have been."

"I hope so, for the good name of the bar," exclaimed Mr. Guthrie.

"You have done much in this case, against the good name of the bar, Mr. Guthrie," replied Mr. Wollman. "Your conduct has been reprehensible. I do not know nor do not care what the law is but the persons who gave these communications to the press ought to be punished. I do object to Mr. Guthrie's insinuation when Mr. Guthrie knows, as he does, how easily it is to get these copies."

After some further discussion between counsel it was agreed they should cooperate in an effort to learn who gave out the communications in question.

VATICAN'S WEALTH.

Pope Leo's Hoard Delivered to His Successor.

Rome, Dec. 19.—According to the Tribuna, the vatican had sudden wealth poured into its coffers today. For some time certain sums, which were possessed by Pope Leo, were looked for without result, the search toward the end becoming somewhat feverish. Cardinal Gotti, accompanied by Monsignor Maraolini, one of the late pope's secretaries, drove up to the vatican yesterday, and getting out hurriedly, began tugging at a heavy object in the carriage. Assistance was offered, but was refused, and Cardinal Gotti and Mgr. Marzolini between them carried the mysterious object to the apartment of Pope Pius. They were immediately admitted and remained for two hours.

Intense curiosity was aroused by this, and as it was believed to have some relation to the missing wealth, the wildest rumors were circulated. It soon became known, however, that the bag contained 45,000,000 francs ($9,000,000) in bank notes.

When Cardinal Gotti entered the presence of the pope, he sank to his knees, and pointing to his burden, said:

"Your holiness, the lamented Leo, just before his death, confided to me the money which I now lay at your feet, saying that if I succeeded him I was to use it as I thought best; but that if another took his place I was to turn the money over to him after a period of four months had elapsed. This I now do in the presence of Mgr. Marzolini, who has been the only other person to share the secret."

The pope was much affected.

The Tribuna goes on to relate that just about the time this scene was being enacted in the papal apartments, an electrician, while removing the hangings in the late Pope Leo's chamber, in order to get at the electric light wires, found in a hole in the wall several bags which were carelessly tied. These bags, when opened, were found to contain 9,250,000 francs.

DRIGGS INDICTMENTS.

New York, Dec. 19.—The indictments against Congressman Driggs under section 1781 of the revised statutes were nullified on motion of the district attorney in Brooklyn, but all the indictments against him under section 1782 are still in force and it was announced that the district attorney will soon proceed on them. The action was on the ground that the contract for procuring of which Mr. Driggs was paid were procured before he qualified as a member of Congress, and therefore it was unconstitutional to charge any criminal action. The indictments against Charles H. Miller in the same connection were also nullified, since, if it were no offense for Driggs to receive the money it could be none for Miller to pay it.

DIETRICH INDICTED.

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 18.—The United States grand jury has made its report to the court, returning nineteen true bills. These include indictments against United States Senator Charles H. Dietrich for alleged illegal leasing of a building to the government to be used as a postoffice; former Adjutant-General Leonard W. Colby, for the alleged embezzlement of government funds; Daniel Gains, of Bassett, Neb., for alleged perjury in swearing falsely to homestead entries; former State Senator Eliott Lowe for alleged conspiracy to bribe a United States senator; Postmaster John S. Mitchell, of Alma, Neb., charging him with illegal sale of postage stamps; William M. Irwin, on a charge of acting as agent for Mitchell, and against R. M. Allen, president of the Standard Cattle Co., for the alleged illegal fencing of government lands.

The other indictments were similar to that against Allen, but do not involve extensive tracts of land.

LABOR IN AUSTRALIA.

Melbourne, Victoria, Dec. 18.—The largely increased labor representation in the common wealth parliament is expected to give a great impetus to the demands for white labor in Australia, for the restriction of alien immigration, and for generally preserving Australia for the Australians. The efforts of the labor party representatives undoubtedly will be bent towards securing recognition of unions, a limitation of the hours of labor, of compulsory arbitration and discrimination against foreign vessels in the coastal trade.

The ultimate labor program will include the nationalization or government control of many financial and commercial functions now left to private enterprise.

Speaking generally, the labor party is strongly protectionist. Its atitude in regard to professional trade was to heighten the wall against the foreigner without lowering it in favor of Great Britain. There is no likelihood of an Australian fiscal issue being raised, as the protectionists have a good working majority in the house of representatives, while even theoretical free traders declare for fiscal peace, fearing to disturb commerce.

Conscience Contribution.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The secretary of the treasury has received in an envelope postmarked Dubuque, Ia., a conscience contribution of $30.

OBJECT TO WOOD'S DEAL

Cuban House Holds Up Rentals General Allowed.

Havana, Dec. 22.—By a vote of 40 to 8, and after prolonged discussion, the house of representatives passed a resolution to suspend the payment of rentals on churches occupied by the government under contract entered into in 1902 by General Wood, the intervention governor, and Mgr. Sbaretti, formerly bishop of Havana, pending an investigation as to the propriety of the contract. Under this agreement between General Wood and the church authorities, the sum of $190,000 was to be paid annually for five years as the rental of several buildings occupied by the government in Havana and elsewhere. The buildings in Havana include the custom house, the university and the academy of science. During the discussion of the resolution the charge was made that the rentals were exorbitant.

The resolution is considered by many to be a violation of the Platt amendment, and it is doubtful if it will meet with the approval of the senate and President Palma.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE

Weekly Trade Report.

New York, Dec. 19.—Bradstreets today says:

Holiday and retail business generally is seasonably active, wholesale and jobbing trade correspondingly quiet, while manufacturing industry slackens partly for the above reasons, but also because of low water in streams or efforts to project operations to changed conditions of demand and supply. The weather is still an important stimulus to heavy wearing apparel and footwear. There are several continuously encouraging features noted. The car congestion of a year ago is conspicuously absent this year, and the railways are handling the cars, excellent business offering with profitable results. Failures do not display more than the normal tendency to increase in number, and there is evidently less tension than exhibited a month ago.

The iron trade retains all the good feeling and advances in prices of pig iron reported in preceding weeks, and makers of finished products, most notably steel plates and structural forms, are apparently firm in their views. The cotton goods manufacturing trade is struggling with high cost and unsettled views as to finished good prices, and international curtailment is suggested. The box board mills have shut down for a time. Machinery manufacturing is dull at the east. Coke production is on a smaller scale and lower wages will be paid. Bituminous coal is weak, while household demand for anthracite coal is better owing to weather conditions, manufacturing demand is less active.

Prices, all things considered, marked steadiness, confirming reports of closely held supplies. The metals are all strong and some grades of foundry pig iron, tin and lead are higher on better volume of business. Seasonable quiet does not appreciably affect building material, which, judging from permits issued at leading cities, is likely to be active next spring. Petroleum is at the highest price in years, due to increased domestic demands for fuel and straitened condition of old fields of supply.

The Grain Markets.

Toledo, Dec. 22.—Close.—Good harvesting weather in Argentine, coupled with an exceedingly dull trade, owing to the near approach of the holiday season and liberal receipts everywhere, gave wheat prices today an easier tone and the market closed ¼c to ⅜c lower.

Opening wheat prices were firm, unchanged to ⅛c higher. Trade was exceedingly dull. There was no special bull news this morning, rather the reverse being the rule. Receipts of all grains were moderately heavy. Weather conditions were favorable for the movement, although the southwest is still without the needed moisture. The map this morning showed no precipitation except light showers. Temperatures were some lower but not severe. Liverpool and continental cables followed our decline of yesterday and came easier this morning. Northwest wheat receipts today were 424 cars, against 450 a week ago, and 321 a year ago; southwest, 541,000 bushels, against 416,000 and 172,000. There was a small trade in the May during the morning and the price dropped to 86⅝c.

The decline started during the morning, continued and cash and December closed at the low marks, 88¾c, while May rebounded ¼c from the low on the close. A moderate export business developed. New York reporting 18 loads taken at the seaboard. Primary receipts today were 1,077,000 bushels, against 1,010,000 a week ago and 637,000 a year ago; shipments, 335,000, against 225,000 and 155,000.

Corn was easier, but the market was not affected to any great extent by the weakness of wheat. Good weather and liberal receipts were the principal bear factors. New York reported 22 loads of corn taken for export.

Corn prices were irregular on the opening. Trade was exceedingly dull and the quotations at noon were unchanged from the opening on a lack of trade. The outside markets were easier. Cables came easier. Receipts were large. Weather conditions continue favorable for the curing of corn.

Primary receipts today were 947,000 bushels, against 476,000 a week ago and 986,000 a year ago; shipments, 185,000, against 209,000 and 384,000.

Oats expressed the same characteristics of the other grains. Trade was quiet and the market closed ⅛c to ¼c lower.

Oats opened steady and unchanged from yesterday. Trade was dull. Prices were steady and unchanged from the opening at noon. There was no news of importance.

Clover seed was about the only feature of the morning markets. Opening seed prices were firm, unchanged to 2½c over yesterday. A moderate buying of the March forced the price to $7.10, while February held steady during the early hours at $7.07½, and December and January dropped back to $7.02½, last night's closing. Receipts today were large, 500 bags, against 200 a year ago; shipments, 470, against 66.

The market continued firm throughout the later hours of the season.

TOLEDO.

Wheat—	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Dec. 19 Close.
Cash	89¼	89¼	88¾	88¾	89¼
Dec	89¼	89¼	88¾	88¾	89½
May	87¾	87¾	86⅝	86¾	87
July	80½	81	80½	80¾	....
Corn—					
Cash	....	....	....	46	46¼
Dec	46	....	....	46	46¼
May	44¼	44½	44¼	44¼	44⅝
Oats—					
Cash	....	....	....	37	37¼
Dec	37¼	37¼	37	37	37¼
May	38¼	38¼	38⅛	38⅛	38¼
Clover Seed—					
Cash	$7.05	....	....	$7.02½	$7.02½
Dec	7.05	....	....	7.02½	7.02½
Jan	7.05	....	....	7.02½	7.02½
Feb	7.05	....	....	7.05	7.07½
March	7.07½	....	....	7.10	7.10

Rye—No. 2, 58c.

Timothy—Prime, $1.40.

Alsike—Prime, $6.65.

CHICAGO.

Wheat—					
Dec	80¼	80¼	79¾	80¼	80¼
May	82⅞	83	82½	82¾	82⅞
July	77½	77½	77¼	77¼	77½
Corn—					
Dec	41	41¾	41	41¼	41¼
May	43⅜	43¾	43¼	43⅜	43⅜
July	43⅜	43½	43¼	43¼	43¾
Oats—					
Dec	35	35	34¾	34¾	35
May	37¼	37¼	36¾	37	37¼
July	34¼	34¼	34⅛	34	34⅛

NEW YORK.

Wheat—					
Dec	93	93	92¾	92¾	92¾
May	85¾	86¼	85⅝	85⅞	85⅞
July	82½	82½	82	82	82¼
Corn—					
Dec	....	....	....	51¼	51⅜
May	49⅞	49⅞	49⅜	49⅝	49⅞

ST. LOUIS.

Wheat—					
Dec.	92	92	91¼	91¾	93
May	82¼	82¼	81⅝	81⅞	82¼
July	76	....	....	76	76⅜

MINNEAPOLIS.

Wheat—					
Dec.	....	....	....	81¼	82¼
May	....	....	....	81½	81⅞

DULUTH.

Wheat—					
Dec.	....	....	....	74¾	80
May	....	....	....	81⅛	82

CHICAGO PROVISIONS.

Pork—					
Man.	$11.77	$11.77	$11.62	$11.62	$11.80
May	12.27	12.30	12.02	12.05	12.22
Lard—					
Jan.	6.52	6.55	6.45	6.45	6.52
May	6.75	6.77	6.65	6.67	6.75
Ribs—					
Jan.	6.25	6.25	6.12	6.12	6.25
May	6.47	6.50	6.37	6.37	6.45

Money and Stocks.

New York, Dec. 22.—Wall street.—The small dealings at the opening in the stock market and the sluggish movement of prices offered no feature. There were not more than a score of transactions in the first five minutes of the trading. The opening was steady. Industrials were again the only points of interest in the market. The neglect of the railroad stocks caused a momentary large following of the professionals when any of the industrials were taken in hand for a turn. Consolidated Gas advanced 2 points and the local tractions 1, while there was a good demand for United States Steel preferred, which carried it up ⅛. St. Louis & San Francisco second preferred ran off 1¼. Lackawanna 1¼. General Chemical 1½, and Westinghouse Electric 2¼. Locomotive preferred, Pipe preferred, Distillers' Securities and Delaware & Hudson lose a point, but the general level of prices fell lower. Rock Island securities were under pressure, the common losing ¾ and the preferred a point. Lead also lost a point. The market was extremely dull and narrow.

Bonds were irregular at noon.

Small offerings continued to make inroads on prices of special stocks, notably Pennsylvania, Reading and United States Steel preferred. Otherwise the market showed little evidence of speculative interest and became duller as the session lengthened.

New York Stocks.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.
Am. Loco. com.	18⅝	18¾	18¼	18¼
Am. Sug. R. com.	123¾	123¾	123	123
Atchison	67¼	67½	67	67¼
Atchison pfd.	92	92	91¾	91¾
Am. C. & F. com.	20	..	..	19⅝
Amal. Copper	48	48¼	47½	47½
Alton com.	35	..	..	35
Balto. & Ohio	78¾	78⅞	78½	78½
B'lyn R. Trans.	51	51¾	50⅞	51⅜
Can. Pac.	118¾	..	..	118¼
Clover Leaf	22	..	..	22
Con. Tob. 4s	56⅝	..	..	56½
Colorado Fuel	26¼	..	..	26¼
Corn rPoducts	17	..	..	17⅝
Ches. & Ohio	33	..	..	32½
Del. & Hudson	164	....	....	164½
Erie common	29⅝	29¾	29¼	29¼
Erie 1st pfd	68	....	....	68
Ice common	8	8	7⅞	8
Illinois Central	130	....	....	129¾
Louis. & Nash	106	....	....	106¼
Leather com	7¼	....	....	7¼
Leather pfd	76	....	....	76
Manhattan	141½	142½	141½	142
Mex. Central	9¾	9¾	9⅝	9¾
Metropolitan	122¼	123½	122½	123
Missouri Pacific	93⅝	94	93⅝	93¾
N. Y. C.	118¾	119	118¼	118¾
N. & W. com.	57⅛	57¼	57	57
Ont. & Western	22	22⅛	22	22
Penn. Ry.	117⅞	118¼	117½	117¾
People's Gas Co.	97¾	97¾	97¼	97¼
Reading com	45⅝	46	45	45¼
Rock Island	24⅛	24⅜	23	23
Rock Island pfd.	60¼	60¼	59¼	59¾
Rep. pref	39½	39½	39	39
South. Ry.	20⅞	20⅞	20¼	20¼
St. Paul	142¼	142⅞	142½	142¼
South. Pac	47¾	48¼	47½	47½
Texas Pac	25	....	....	24⅝
Ten. Coal & Iron	33½	33⅝	33¼	33
Union Pac	78⅜	78⅞	....	....
U. S. Steel	10⅝	10¾	10¼	10¼
U. S. Steel pfd.	54¾	55¼	54⅛	54¼
Virginia Chem.	26¼	....	....	26¼
Wabash com.	19¾	19¾	19¼	19⅝
Wabash pfd.	37	37	36⅝	36⅝
Wab. Deb. B's	61⅝	61¾	61¼	61¼
Wis. Central com.	16¾	16⅞	16⅝	16⅝

Toledo Produce Market.

Butter very firm; fancy Elgin creamery, one-pound prints, 27@28c; solid pack, 26c; dairy, 18@20c; packing stock, 12@13c; Michigan creamery, 1-lb. prints, 26@27c; solid pack, 25@26c.

Butterine—As to quality and style of package, 10@14c per lb.

Cheese—Michigan, full cream, 11½@12½c.

Eggs—Candled, 30c; at mark, 29c; April storage, 25@26c; June, 24@25c.

Cabbages—Holland Seed, 2½c per lb.

Lettuce—Per lb., 10@12c.

Radishes—Per doz., hothouse, 25@30c.

Tomatoes—Home grown, $1.00@1.50 per bu.

Spinach—40@50c per bu.

Celery—30@40c per bunch.

Onions—Green, 10@15c per dozen; home grown, per bu., 60@75c.

Wax Beans — Home-grown, 50@75c per bushel.

Green Beans—50@75c per bu.

Navy Beans (hand picked)—$2.25 to $2.40.

Potatoes—70c per bu.

Sweet Potatoes—Virginia Sweets, per bbl., $1.75@2.00; fancy Jerseys, $3.75; choice Jerseys, $3.50.

Apples—Per bu., fancy, 50@75c; choice to fair, 25@35c, as to quality and variety.

Poultry (alive) — Fowls, 8@9c; young chickens, 9@10c; turkeys, 13@14c; ducks, 11c; geese, 9@10c.

Poultry (dressed)—Fowls, 9@10c; young chickens, 11@12c; turkeys, 15@17c; ducks, 13@14c; geese, 11@12c.

Green hides, 6½c; bulls and No. 2, 5½c; green calf, No. 1, 10½c; No. 2, 9c; kipp, 8c; No. 2, 7c.

New York Produce.

New York, Dec. 22.—Beef—Steady.

Pork—Steady; family, $14.50@15.00.

Lard—Firm; prime western steam, $7.00.

Butter—Receipts, 6,273 pkgs.; steady; extra creamery, 33c; creamery, common to choice, 15@22c; state dairy, 14@20c; held creamery, 15@20c.

Cheese—Receipts, 2,757 pkgs.; quiet; state, full cream, fancy, small, colored, Sept., 12c; late made, 10c; small, white, Sept., 12c; late made, 10c; large, colored, Sept., 12c; late made, 10c; large, white, Sept., 12c; late made, 10c.

Eggs—Receipts, 4,940 pkgs.; firm; state and Pennsylvania nearby, average finest, 36c; do seconds to firsts, 30@34c; western firsts, 36c; do seconds to firsts, 30@34c; refrigerated, 26@28c.

Sugar—Raw, nominal; fair refining, 3 1-16@3⅛c; centrifugal 96 test, 3 9-16c; molasses sugar, 2 13-16@2⅞c; refined, quiet; crushed, $5.05; powdered, $4.55; granulated, $4.45.

Petroleum—Firm; refined, all ports, $9.45@9.50.

Coffee—Firm; No. 7 Rio, 7c.

Molasses—Firm; New Orleans, 31@38c.

Chicago Produce.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—Butter—Easy; creameries, 16@23c; dairies, 14@21c.

Eggs—Easy, 27@28½c.

Cheese — Steady; daisies, 10¼@10½c; twins, 10c; young Americans, 10½c.

N. Y. Poultry.

New York, Dec. 22.—Poultry—Alive, firm; western chickens, 10@10½c; fowls, 11@11½c; turkeys, 14@15c; dressed, easy, western chickens, 11½@12c; fowls, 11½@12c; turkeys, 16@18c.

Live Stock.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—Cattle—Receipts, 4,000, market steady; good to prime steers, $4.90@5.75; poor to medium, $3.25@4.80; stockers and feeders, $2.00@4.00; cows, $1.50@3.80; heifers, $2.00@4.75; canners, $1.50@2.30; calves, $2.00@5.75.

Hogs—Receipts today, 25,000; tomorrow, 35,000; market for medium and heavy, strong; mixed and butchers, $4.35@4.60; good to choice heavy, $4.45@4.55; rough, heavy, $4.30@4.45; light, $4.15@4.40; bulk of sales, $4.35@4.50.

Sheep—Receipts, 14,000; sheep, steady; lambs, steady; good to choice wethers, $3.50@4.00; fair to choice mixed, $2.75@3.50; native lambs, $4.00@5.85.

East Buffalo, Dec. 22.—(Swope, H. W. & B.'s Special Report to The Blade).—Cattle, 10 cars; steady. Hogs, 60 cars; 5@10c higher; yorkers, $4.50@4.55; mixed, medium heavy, $4.60@4.70; pigs, $4.50@4.55. Sheep, 70 loads; shade lower; best lambs, $5.80@6.00; balance same as yesterday. Calves, best, $7.00@7.50; fair to good, $5.50@6.50.

Union Stock Yards, Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 22.—(Brinkman, Wood & Beck's Special Report to The Blade).—Supply hogs light; stronger; heavy, $4.65@4.70; medium, $4.70; pigs, yorkers, $4.65@4.70. Four loads sheep; slow; sheep, $3.00@4.25; lambs, $4.00@6.10.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 22.—(Bower & Bower's special report to The Blade.)—Hogs—Receipts, 20 cars; market 10@15c higher; shipments, 1,200; yorkers, $4.60; mediums and heavies, $4.70; pigs, $4.40@4.50; stags and roughs, $3.25@3.75.

Cotton.

New York, Dec. 22.—Cotton futures opened firm; December, 12.67; January, 12.72; March, 12.95; April, 13.06; May, 13.12; June, 13.10@13.15; July, 13.14; August, 12.84.

The cotton market opened firm at an advance of 3@10 points on higher cables than expected, a renewal of bull support, chiefly from New Orleans sources, and covering. After showing net gains of about 9@10 points on the more active positions, however, the market was weakened by a spurt of liquidation, declining to within 3@4 points of last night's finals, after which it ruled moderately active, with prices fluctuating within narrow limits.

At midday the market was firm, with prices at the high point of the session, or net 7@14 points higher. Spot steady, middling uplands, 13.10; middling gulf, 13.35.

Estimated receipts at the ports today, 70,000 bales, against 63,018 last week and 47,246 last year; for the week, 290,000 bales, against 306,823 last week, and 285,221 last year. Today's receipts at New Orleans were 27,365 bales, against 18,793 last year, and at Houston 19,611 bales, against 13,647 last year.

Wool.

Boston, Dec. 22.—Firm conditions prevail in the wool market. A large quantitl of wool has been sold recently, though the buying manufacturers have needed the wool to cover orders for goods already sold. The market for fleece wools holds firm and the available supplies are moderate. The price for Ohio washed delaines holds at about 35c; for unwashed and unmerchantable Ohio delaines, about 26@26½c is the price, with unwashed clothing grades at 23½@24c. Michigan delaine is quotable at about 32@32½c. For quarter and ⅜-blood unwashed wools the price is about 25c for Ohio, and 24@24½c for others. Half blood unwashed fleeces continue scarce and firm with Ohio at 25@25½c, and Michigan, 24½c.

FREE!

THE MINING HERALD.

Leading mining and financial paper, giving all the news from all the mining districts, and containing latest and most reliable information on the mining and oil industries, principal companies, dividends, etc. Every investor should have it. We will send it free for six months upon request. A. L. WISNER & CO., 32 Broadway, New York.